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[PATRIA 1 Mar]

ALVAREZ, FIGUEIREDO SPEAK AT ITAMARATY BANQUET

PY011500 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Feb 84 p 6

[Excerpt] In a speech delivered at Itamaraty Palace last night during a banquet hosted in his honor by the Brazilian Government, Uruguayan President Gregorio Alvarez said that Uruguay "will never give up freedom and democracy." The Uruguayan president arrived in Brasilia yesterday afternoon for a 2-day official visit to Brazil.

The general warned: "Nothing has been more repudiated in our minds than the scourge of violence, in its forms of conventional, psychological, or terrorist wars that would distance our continent from future progress and achievements for which our illustrious forefathers fought so much, and to whom we dedicate our most dynamic efforts."

Alvarez said he was "alarmed" with the current course of East-West relations, "which are returning to the tensions of the Cold War and which are being dangerously accompanied by an increase in war materiel." The Uruguayan president expressed the hope that America will not be the stage of consequences that "these confrontations could bring."

He regretted the fact that the protocol on commercial expansion between Brazil and Uruguay has not yet reached its objectives. " We reiterate the fundamental importance of updating the protocol on commercial expansion, an instrument that should be the main vehicle channeling our trade flow that only partially fulfilled its objectives as an agent of dynamism."

Before the banquet, Alvarez went to Itamaraty to be introduced to the foreign diplomatic corps accredited to Brasilia. In clear contradiction of tradition, Itamaraty kept the journalists at a distance, preventing any contact with the visitor.

In his welcoming speech during the banquet, President Joao Figueiredo stated that he welcomes Alvarez with "special satisfaction." Praising the visitor, Figueiredo stated: "In the person of Your Excellency we welcome the chief of state whose personal and professional life, and the high-ranking functions you have held, reflect the capacity and experience which will make our talks most profitable."

ARGENTINA REQUESTS ARREST OF PERON MINISTER

PY011230 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Federal Police are looking for a former Argentine minister throughout Brazil. Reporter Renato Lombardi will tell you more about this.

[Begin Lombardi recording] The Federal Police are looking throughout the country for a former Argentine minister who served during Juan Domingo Peron's regime, Jose Lopez Rega, who is reportedly living in Sao Paulo, at 1194 Casa Branca Promenade, Jardim Paulista neighborhood. The request to find and imprison Lopez Rega was made by the Argentine Government to Interpol, and Interpol has requested the cooperation of the Brazilian police through the Justice Ministry. [end recording]

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT ON INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

PY251838 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] The president of the Central Bank has confirmed that three other projects formulated with international bankers are formally under way. These projects involve funding of approximately $21 billion.

BRIEFS

1983 COFFEE EXPORTS -- Rio de Janeiro, 11 Feb (AFP) -- The Bank of Brazil's Foreign Trade Department [CACEX] today reported here that 978,193 tons of hulled and instant coffee worth $2,324,654,000 were exported during 1983, up from 936,173 tons worth $2,113,143,000 during 1982. The CACEX added that during 1983 Brazil exported 938,865 tons of hulled coffee ($2,078,410,000) and 47,328 tons of instant coffee ($246,244,000) [figures as received]. The CACEX also reported that during 1982 Brazil exported 880,020 tons of grained coffee ($1,857,526,000) and 48,153 tons of instant coffee ($255,617,000). [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1337 GMT 11 Feb 84 PY]

SAO PAULO STATE LAYOFFS -- The Sao Paulo Government has laid off 2,000 employees in 11 months, according to union leaders of state-run enterprises. At least 1,150 dismissals have been confirmed. VASP [Sao Paulo Airlines] dismissed nearly 700 employees last year and is threatening to dismiss more this year. At SABESTE [expansion unknown], 607 employees were fired. At the Cultura Radio and Television station, 246 employees have been given dismissal notices. In all cases there is a common justification: a cutback in expenses. [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Feb 84 PY]

PINOCHET ANNOUNCES RESTRICTIONS ON PARTIES

PY01257 Paris AFP in Spanish 0145 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Punta Arenas, 29 Feb (AFP) -- Chilean President Augusto Pinochet today announced that in the future political parties will not be allowed to have names that reflect philosophies or religions. He made this announcement at the end of his 6-day tour of the southern area of the country. Obviously referring to the Christian Democratic Party, the chief executive made it clear that the proposed new law on political parties will provide that no party should bear the name of religious or philosophic ideas.

The president made this statement just when the relations between the government and the church have reached a critical stage after the government blamed certain priests of participating in the demonstrations against the president on Sunday.

Today, authorities and neighborhood committees held a rally to express support for General Pinochet during which the latter announced his decision regarding the political parties.

"I am grateful for your support. We are the majority and we are fighting for Chile. We are building a fatherland of our own, a Chilean fatherland, without accepting foreign ideologies or alien political parties like some that call themselves Christian," Pinochet told some 4,000 people. He went on to say that there must be regional parties because "nowadays we must have deputies and senators who were born in the various regions and not deputies and senators from the capital who do not even know where the local square is."

Announcement Criticized

PY012111 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Lawyer Francisco Cumplido, an expert on the Constitution and a member of the group for constitutional studies, regards the intention to restrict the use of references to party principles in party names as unprecedented. Cumplido commented on the statements made by President Pinochet upon leaving Punta Arenas yesterday. When asked whether President Pinochet's statements may have been targeted at the Christian Democratic Party, Cumplido replied that the president's comments could have been made because the Christian Democratic Party is a strong movement that has severely criticized the government.

OIL WORKERS TO DEMONSTRATE AGAINST GOVERNMENT

PY012036 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1621 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 1 Mar (EFE) -- Chilean oil workers from the Magallanes, Concepcion, and Concon plants have agreed to carry out demonstrations to protest the arrest of the president of the National Federation of Oil Workers. The leaders of this federation, headed by its vice president, Antonio Mimiza, indicated that the demonstrations will be carried out as long as the Federation's president, Jose Ruiz Di Giorgio, imprisoned in Punta Arenas, remains under arrest.

Last Sunday Di Giorgio and other Punta Arenas residents were arrested by Carabineros for demonstrating against General Augusto Pinochet while the chief of state was heading a civic and military ceremony at the parade grounds of that city, located 2,500 km south of the capital.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON CHURCH POLITICAL ACTIVITY

PY011235 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa has pointed out that the fact that some clergymen allegedly engage in political demonstrations does not mean that the entire church is involved. Answering journalists' questions, the interior minister stated that the government is analyzing in Punta Arenas the protest it will make over the incident that occurred at the entrance of the Punta Arenas Cathedral.

Minister Jarpa also voiced his disgust over the painting of slogans on the archbishopric's walls, adding that the necessary measures will be taken to prevent this from happening again.

De la Plata Criticizes Clergy

PY011230 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Government Secretary General Alfonso Marquez de la Plata has pointed out in Punta Arenas that some clergymen adopt attitudes that are not in keeping with their calling.

Marquez de la Plata also stated that the return of the military to their barracks will be carried out in keeping with the terms of the Constitution.

The government secretary said that the demonstrations held in Punta Arenas by subversive elements were only a test of the political actions they have scheduled for the month of March, but that the government will adopt the necessary measures.

Rumors circulating state that the government will lodge an official protest with the Chilean church and the Vatican.

TOP JUDGE WANTS END TO EXILE, CRITICIZES BILL

PY012108 Paris AFP in Spanish 2014 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 1 Mar (AFP) -- Rafael Retamal, the president of the Chilean Supreme Court, today advocated the return of thousands of exiles and criticized the antiterrorist bill that is being drafted by the government of General Augusto Pinochet.

Speaking to government officials at the traditional ceremony marking the beginning of yearly judicial branch activities, Retamal recalled that those who sought political asylum or were expelled to other countries have lived in exile since the military regime took over 10 years ago. He also mentioned the family problems and social tensions that this situation has caused, and recalled that living outside their fatherland is very painful for Chileans.

Last year, the government authorized the return of more than 3,000 exiles, whose names were included in regularly published lists. The decision was suddenly canceled 4 months ago.

Retamal noted that the antiterrorist bill grants too much power to military courts, contradicting the regulations that have been traditionally in force in Chile. Retamal also said that the military courts have not concluded the investigations into hundreds of cases of missing detainees, cases which were reported by relatives and the Catholic Church in the last few years.

ALMEYDA INTERVIEWED ON POLITICS, PROPOSALS

PY290025 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 19 Feb 84 pp D 2, D 3

[Interview with Popular Democratic Movement, MDP, President Manuel Almeyda at his home in Providencia on 14 February by Maria Angelica de Luigi]

[Excerpts] [De Luigi] You have asked for a provisional gpvernment, which is the same as requesting the fall of the present government. Don't you think that this type of request would even prompt legal action against you in a democratic government?

[Almeyda] I do not think so. This law [presumably the domestic security law] is supposed to defend democracy, but this government is by no means democratic and it shows no signs of being democratic.

[De Luigi] But don't you think that you would still have problems if you did the same thing in a democracy?

[Almeyda] I do not think so.

[De Luigi] But you are requesting the overthrow of a government.

[Almeyda] I am asking for a provisional government, because the present government is antidemocratic; it is a dictatorship. I am fighting against it for the same reason that many other people are.

[De Luigi] I insist that you would not be able to say what you have said in a democratic government.

[Almeyda] If I did it in a democratic government, I would probably be tried for attempting to disrupt a system established through the people's sovereign decision. But this is not the case, it is not the case. This is why I believe that the domestic security law is not applicable in this case.

[De Luigi] If you say that the government is a dictatorship, how were you then able to go to the Caupolican and say all this, which you would not have been able to say in a democratic government.

[Almeyda] Yes, I was able to go to the Caupolican and say what I said. There is no doubt about it. I was even able to hire a radio to disseminate what I said. But then came the court summons, which shows that the government does not respect the freedom of speech.

[De Luigi] They have used the domestic security law against you, which you say is democratic. However, Article 24 was not used against you.

[Almeyda] You are right. They have not used Article 24.

[De Luigi] And what do you think about it?

[Almeyda] I believe as time goes by that this government can do less and less of what it feels like doing.

[De Luigi] Do you mean that it is not that the governmemt does not want to do things but rather that it cannot do them?

[Almeyda] It is because it cannot do them. Is it not true that the government pays a very high price for each of its foolish actions? But it will pay a high price for summoning me to face charges of violating the domestic security law, which should be called the dictatorship defense law in this case.

[De Luigi] So you believe that the government hasn't applied Article 24 to you because it was not able to do it. Do you think then it was for this same reason that leftist parties were able to meet for the first time in 10 years, and you and your followers shouted at the Caupolican? Did the meeting take place because the government could not prevent it?

[Almeyda] It was because the people, through their mobilization and pressure, have compelled the government to accept certain things.

[De Luigi] Do you mean that the government does not earn any credit for wanting to open the door?

[Almeyda] Give this government credit? No. I do not think it wanted to open anything.

[De Luigi] Nothing?

[Almeyda] Nothing. I think it was compelled to grant an opening.

[De Luigi] Don't you think that the opening granted after Minister Jarpa was installed was a positive measure?

[Almeyda] The opening was prompted by the protests.

[De Luigi] Was granting an opening the only thing the government could do in the face of the protest actions?

[Almeyda] The government can do many things. Some things are good and others are bad. I believe that in this case the government adopted a decision that was beneficial to it.

[De Luigi] Was the government compelled by the protest actions to adopt that decision?

[Almeyda] Of course, the protest actions not only compelled the government to grant an opening, but they were the cause of it.

[De Luigi] Sorry for insisting, but I think this is important. It would seem that what you want most is that we all vote immediately. Therefore, it is important to know how much support you think you have.

[Almeyda] No (he laughs). I am not calling for immediate elections.

[De Luigi] Aren't you?

[Almeyda] No. Do you really think I could have any reason to believe that this government is capable of holding a really democratic and serious election like the Chileans deserve? Never.

[De Luigi] Well, you have asked for a provisional government to vote in a constituent assembly. But when are you asking for it, tomorrow, I hope, or when?

[Almeyda] We will ask for it when this government is finished.

[De Luigi] Well then, when do you want it?

[Almeyda] For all I know, this government can end tomorrow.

[De Luigi] Well then, according to your request we would be voting for a constituent assembly tomorrow...

[Almeyda interrupts] No, no, because it is necessary to make the necessary preparations for elections. The electoral lists must be prepared. A whole set of things must be done to ensure that the people will really be able to express themselves correctly and clearly. An election requires a great deal of preparation which includes, for example, drawing up the electoral lists.

[De Luigi] And how much time do you think would be needed for the provisional government to prepare a democratic election?

[Almeyda] I believe that 4 months should be enough.

[De Luigi] Four months to prepare the electoral lists and all the other necessary things?

[Almeyda] Well, 4 or 6 months perhaps.

[De Luigi] Well, but what you do want is a provisional government tomorrow, don't you?

[Almeyda] Obviously, yes. I wish it could be tomorrow, but I have doubts about it.

[De Luigi] When do you think it could be?

[Almeyda] Look, it is very difficult to set a date. It does not seem reasonable for me to give a deadline.

[De Luigi] But could it be this year?

[Almeyda] Within 1 or 2 years, I believe. I am not a fortune teller. I have to measure things according to their development. So, I cannot tell you now whether it will be this year. What I can tell you now is that we are clearly and evidently advancing while the government is clearly and evidently going backward.

[De Luigi] But in any case, according to you no elections could be held this year...

[Almeyda] No. Look, I cannot say that they will not be held, either. The deterioration of this government is tremendous. The people's capacity to struggle is increasing. I cannot tell you that they will not be held this year.

[De Luigi] Well, I insist because I think that when you speak to the people, you call them together and propose things, well...the people could ask you when.

[Almeyda] No. The people ask other things.

[De Luigi] What things?

[Almeyda] They ask what position, what actions are necessary to achieve that. They ask what will be done once the government is changed. Those are the things that interest the people.

[De Luigi] Let us return to the issue of a provisional government. You said that a decision on the elections would be made within 4 or 6 months. Doesn't it seem reasonable to you that you should have a more or less clear idea of an electoral process, considering that you are asking for them?

[Almeyda] Look, in those elections, this government, that is, that of imperialism, of the Chicago boys, of the monopolists, of the economic crooks, and the military, will have no political representatives...

[De Luigi] Aha, that means that you give a zero percent to them.

[Almeyda] They could have none. Do you think that if Pinochet runs for deputy of Santiago he will get any votes? Not a single vote. And he is not going to run, either.

[De Luigi] And suppose he runs, how many votes do you think he would get?

[Almeyda] I do not know.

[De Luigi] What do you mean you do not know?

[Almeyda] I just do not know; that's all.

[De Luigi] That is strange. It would be reasonable to believe that you are asking for elections because you have an idea of the result.

[Almeyda] Look, we believe that since a vast majority of the Chilean people are for democracy, they will vote for the democratic forces.

[De Luigi] But that does not mean anything for the opposition, which is made up of many different forces, like the Christian Democratic Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Republican right, the Communist Party, the Socialist Party.... What are, in your opinion, the majority forces?

[Almeyda] I believe that the left, that is, the group of leftist forces, will be the majority sector.

[De Luigi] In other words, the UP [Popular Unity] will win again, because the MDP is just a new UP, isn't it?

[Almeyda] Look, the MDP is a leftist alliance.

[De Luigi] Isn't it the UP?

[Almeyda] No, it is not the UP.

[De Luigi] Why not?

[Almeyda] Because the UP developed under specific political conditions, under a specific government, and with a specific opposition. This is not the case now. The MDP now represents the unity of the people.

[De Luigi] But the MDP is made up of the political movements that made up the UP.

[Almeyda] We call it the unity of the left, because we sponsor the unity of all leftist parties.

[De Luigi] Why don't you want to call it the UP? Is there anything wrong with that?

[Almeyda] No, there is nothing wrong with that. I have the greatest respect for what the UP was and did. But political conditions are different now and, therefore, I could not say that the MDP is the UP. We are now struggling against a dictatorship. The MDP is tied to and branded by the struggle against the dictatorship.

[De Luigi] But what you are asking for now is nothing new. In what you have called the "basis for a provisional government," you ask that "all those who have committed crimes against the people be brought to trial." What is the exact meaning of this expression?

[Almeyda] All those who are responsible for the crimes that have been committed. Or do you think no crimes have been committed?

[De Luigi] And what will you do with them?

[Almeyda] Bring them to trial. All of them.

[De Luigi] In civilian courts?

[Almeyda] Of course.

[De Luigi] And how many people will you bring to trial? The scope of the charge "crimes against the people" seems to be quite broad. What is the exact meaning of the expression "crimes against the people"?

[Almeyda] The case of missing detainees, for example, is a crime against the people.

[De Luigi] In other words, it involves everything having to do with murder. Could anything else be regarded as crimes against the people?

[Almeyda] Look, the word crime implies not only murder, doesn't it?

[De Luigi] That is why I believe the scope of the charge is too broad.

[Almeyda] Naturally. There are different types of crimes. For example, the attacks against Prats, or Leighton, were crimes against the people....

[De Luigi] Do you also regard the economic policy as a "crime against the people"?

[Almeyda] Obviously, the economic policy will also be put on trial.

[De Luigi] And also the labor policy?

[Almeyda] You mean have there been abuses in this area? Of course.

[De Luigi] But, are you going to consider it a crime against the people? What I want to know is how many people you will bring to the courts.

[Almeyda] Look, I cannot tell you that. But there are many cases in which responsibilities will have to be clarified.

[De Luigi] The thing is that your statement suggests that you will bring more people to trial than Alfonsin did in Argentina.

[Almeyda] Alfonsin has been quite strict. He has jailed everybody from the president down.

[De Luigi] But do you believe that more people will be brought to trial here in Chile?

[Almeyda] Look, I do not know whether it will be a proportionate number.... I could not tell you that. I believe no-one can tell....

[De Luigi] I insist on this issue because I believe that your announcements on these issues are not just empty talk. You made them because you have thought about them. They aren't mere phrases....

[Almeyda] Of course not, they involve punishing those who have engaged in arbitrary repressive actions, in murder. But they also involve punishing those who bear political responsibilities for actions which have obviously harmed the nation.

[De Luigi] Would you put General Pinochet on trial?

[Almeyda] I believe General Pinochet is responsible for what is happening in this government.

[De Luigi] Would you put him on trial?

[Almeyda] He has made it very clear that he is responsible for the events taking place in this country.

[De Luigi] There is the belief that if you had the power to do it, you would put Pinochet, and all the ministers, and all those who were ministers, on trial...

[Almeyda] The provisional government will take care of it. The courts will have the responsibility of determining who is responsible.

[De Luigi] Are you also asking for the nationalization of banks?

[Almeyda] You know that the banks are currently indebted to the Chilean state to a great extent, although they do not belong to the state.

[De Luigi] But you want the banks to definitely go into the hands of the state again. Allende nationalized them, then this government returned them to the private sector, and now you want to nationalize them again.

[Almeyda] Of course. We believe that the financial capital must be managed by the state.

[De Luigi] The same with industry, again in the hands of the state?

[Almeyda] Certainly. The monopolistic industry should be in the hands of the state.

[De Luigi] Don't you believe that there will be little support from Chileans to continue changing from one extreme to the other, swerving from one side to the other, from nationalization to private hands, and then back to nationalization again?

[Almeyda] No, this is not going to extremes. The nationalization of the monopolistic industry is not an extreme. I am sure a very large part of the country's democratic sector agrees with this.

[De Luigi] For example, do you believe the industrialists agree with it?

[Almeyda] Probably not all of them.

[De Luigi] No one will agree.

[Almeyda] You believe that no one will agree. I do not think so. I believe many will not be affected at all.

[De Luigi] For example, which ones?

[Almeyda] The small industries, for example.

[De Luigi] Small industries, but what about the Industrial Development Association, and Fantuzzi?

[Almeyda] Well, not those. The paper industry will probably not like it very much.

[De Luigi] Are you thinking of doing the same thing for the agricultural sector? You are asking for the implementation of a new agrarian reform law.

[Almeyda] We believe that agrarian reform is progress in the administration of agricultural activity.

[De Luigi] This means going back to the Popular Unity which expropriated all the farms.

[Almeyda] It did not expropriate all the farms.

[De Luigi] What do you mean it did not? What about the hard work in giving them back? What I mean is that what you are offering Chileans is turning back the clock 10 years with the expropriation of industries, farms, and banks.

[Almeyda] Look, the nationalization of the banks has for all practical purposes been carried out by this government. Then what...

[De Luigi] You want to legalize it. To do it all over again. How do you believe the Chilean people feel about this idea of returning to the way it was?

[Almeyda] Look, I believe that the people of this country totally disagree with the economic policies implemented by this government.

[De Luigi] Don't you believe that they also disagreed with the Popular Unity government?

[Almeyda] I believe that in March 1973 the Popular Unity government obtained 43 percent of the votes.

[De Luigi] It was defeated. However, do you believe that the majority in this country wants the return of the Popular Unity government?

[Almeyda] I am not talking about going back to the Popular Unity.

[De Luigi] But the measures are basically the same, the "40 measures."

[Almeyda] They are not the same measures. This is a proposal to be discussed with other democratic political organizations. This is the situation. However, I believe that a large part of these measures can be accepted by the democratic sectors which have repudiated all the economic and political policies of this government.

[De Luigi] And that also repudiated the Popular Unity government...

[Almeyda] Some of them were not in agreement with many measures adopted by Popular Unity. But I must tell you that the agrarian reform was not opposed by many sectors that were, in the end, opposed to the Popular Unity government. And I must also tell you that some measures adopted by the Popular Unity government to exercise control over the economy not only had the support but the unanimous support of the whole country. And then this government, with no respect for the will of the Chilean people, of course, has taken upon itself to turn the clock backward.

[De Luigi] And you also want to turn the clock backward...

[Almeyda] What we want is to reverse the economic and social bunglings committed by this government, which has been repudiated by the majority of the people and which has been repeatedly condemned by the nations of the world for its human rights performance.

[De Luigi] Doctor, you are asking for the return to democracy. However, the MDP has accepted the participation of the MIR, which is a terrorist group...

[Almeyda] The only terrorism I know, and you know, is the state terrorism.

[De Luigi] And isn't the MIR a terrorist group?

[Almeyda] In its public activities through the MDP, the MIR is not terrorist, because the MDP is not a terrorist organization, and it does not accept terrorism.

[De Luigi] Do you mean that the MIR is no longer the MIR which has a long history of attacks and bank assaults in Chile, that it has abandoned that line?

[Almeyda] I do not know that. I do not know whether it has abandoned that line or whether it had that line at one time. What I do know is that the MDP is a political alliance with a very clear and well defined line of action, and it can be joined by all political or social sectors which agree with that line. If the MIR accepts it and is willing to work politically that way, we have no objection to its belonging to the MDP.

[De Luigi] Well, it must then be understood that you have accepted the participation of the MIR because it has agreed not to practice violence, and to act in peaceful ways...

[Almeyda] Through the MDP, the MIR carries out activities that are absolutely not terroristic.

[De Luigi] Isn't that accepting a double standard? You care about what the MIR does within the MDP, but don't care about what it does outside?

[Almeyda] What it does outside the MDP... Look, one would have to know what it does outside the MDP...

[De Luigi] But the MIR has a record, a well-known history...

[Almeyda] It had a history, of course.

[De Luigi] And do you believe that history has ended?

[Almeyda] What I know is that the MIR is at this time committed to act politically.

[De Luigi] Not to terrorism?

[Almeyda] Not to terrorism, obviously.

[De Luigi] Ah, has the MIR now adopted the democratic way? This is news. It would make a headline: MIR No Longer for Armed Struggle.

[Almeyda] You are saying that, right? What I know is that the MIR has by consensus accepted, within the MDP, the forms of struggle adopted and promoted by the MDP.

[De Luigi] Forms that are quite ambiguous, Doctor, because they refer "to all the roads leading to overthrowing the dictatorship."

[Almeyda] They are not ambiguous. What we say is that the people will adopt forms of struggle that are possible.

[De Luigi] That does not exclude anything.

[Almeyda] It excludes a great deal because it says "the forms of struggle that are possible." This excludes the forms of struggle that are not possible.

[De Luigi] And what are the forms not possible?

[Almeyda] Can't you think of any?

[De Luigi] No. You tell me.

[Almeyda] For instance, do you believe the popular movement can launch a struggle like the one the valiant soldiers of Chile launched against Allende, with Hawker and Hunter aircraft, with tanks?

[De Luigi] Because you do not have the arms, is that it?

[Almeyda] And doesn't that seem important to you? If the people do not have arms obviously they cannot wage an armed struggle.

[De Luigi] But if you had them, you would...

[Almeyda] If they had them. You are making a supposition. If the left had had arms, Hawker and Hunter planes, and tanks, I believe it would have resisted the military assault. The left did not resist because it lacked the force, it only had the just cause. It seems that thinking that the left may have arms available now is indulging in fantasy...

[De Luigi] Doesn't it have them? What one can suppose according to what the left internationally asserts is that it has arms. And if the arms are not shipped, something in the international leftist organization might be failing. Or it may have stood you up, something like that...

[Almeyda] The truth... Look, let's not speculate on this question... The truth is that no proposition exists for a military struggle between the MDP and the government. There is nothing of that sort...

'TERRORIST' ATTACKS CAUSE THREE INJURIES, DAMAGE

PY011750 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] As a result of a number of bomb attacks perpetrated by terrorists in Santiago last night, three persons were wounded and electricity and railway facilities damaged. A number of bomb explosions were also reported in Concepcion and Valparaiso.

The first attack in Santiago occurred at 2300 against a transformer located on Msgr Eyzaguirre and Eduardo Castillo Velazco Streets. A group of individuals travelling in a small white car planted the explosive device at the base of the transformer. The blast hit a taxi that was passing by with two passengers. The 21-year-old driver, (Victor Sodorto Ibarra), and the two passengers were wounded and taken to the central first aid post.

As of 2330 several other subversive attacks took place in various points of this capital. At the General Velazquez Street railway crossing, two pylons of the railway electric system were blown up. A school and two transformers of the electric lines bombed on Carlos Valdovinos between Buzeta and Passage Uno Streets were slightly damaged.

Two explosive devices destroyed 200 meters of rails, but another one was deactivated at No 13,120 (Milijilla) highway. A lamp post on Alvaro Casanova Street was knocked down. Two explosions destroyed 50 meters of the railway line at Ovalle Alley, where a third bomb was deactivated. The lamp post on the corner of Recoleta and Americo Vespucio Streets, which was completely destroyed, was another target of terrorist attacks.

Police reports from Concepcion point out that several bombs exploded in that city last night. The terrorist actions started as of 2300 with an attack against the CEMA-Chile [Chilean Mothers' Center] branch in front of Plaza Ecuador. The Edwards Bank branch, located in the center of Concepcion, was the target of another attack where two bombs exploded and one was deactivated.

High tension pylons were destroyed at the northern end of the Nuevo Bridge over the Bio-Bio River causing a blackout in neighboring areas and part of Talcahuano. Concepcion police reported that other terrorist attacks took place on the (Xeque) Hill and against the premises of the Regional Teachers' School.

About five attacks were registered in the Fifth Region. Two bombs exploded at the port on Francia Avenue, causing a loss of power. An explosion on Dos Orientes Street in Vina del Mar also caused a power outage while in (Quelpue) two bombs caused as yet undetermined damage in addition to shattering window panes in neighboring buildings.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT PRC IN AUGUST

PY011825 Paris AFP in Spanish 1715 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 1 Mar (AFP) -- It was officially reported today in Santiago that Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle will visit the PRC at the invitation of the PRC Government. The visit will be made on August 1984 to coincide with the inter-government meeting to take place in Beijing. This meeting will promote trade and cultural exchange between the two countries.

The PRC and Romania are the only two socialist countries that maintained relations with Chile after the military coup in 1973 that overthrew the leftist regime of President Salvador Allende.

BRIEFS

FISHING EXPORTS -- The government has reported that fishing exports during 1983 reached $455 million, which represents an 11-percent increase over 1982. [Summary] [Santiago El MERCURIO in Spanish 15 Feb 84 pp C1, C2 PY]

ICE BREAKER PURCHASE -- Chilean Defense Minister Patricio Carvajal has confirmed that Chile plans to purchase an ice breaker for about $50 million for use in Antarctic operations during the summer months and scientific research in the winter. [Summary] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 Feb 84 PY]

GOVERNMENT APPROVES ECONOMIC, SOCIAL MEASURES

PA011220 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Feb 84 pp 1-A, 8-B

[By Carlos Pineros]

[Text] The government yesterday approved measures to strengthen its economic and social policies in order to counteract the climate of unrest that exists in some regions, to promote reactivation, and to strengthen the process of peace and stabilization.

The National Council for Economic and Social Policy, CONPES, yesterday approved a series of measures during a special session that attempts to answer the people's many complaints, which in some areas have led to demonstrations. CONPES also approved two documents which were submitted by the National Planning Council. The documents concerned the economic outlook and the government economic program that will be implemented in the next 12 months. Also covered was the "consolidation of the housing program for low-income sectors."

During the 5-and-1/2-hour meeting, Finance Minister Edgar Gutierrez Castro and Development Minister Rodrigo Marin Bernal summarized some basic points that received CONPES approval:

1. The delicate social situations in some regions require a prompt and careful study and an immediate solution which will take into consideration the specific characteristics of each area. CONPES has approved the recommendations to restore peace in the country.

2. The housing program for low-income sectors has received renewed backing with "monetary and budget" support to meet the goal of building 400,000 houses during the Betancur administration.

3. The Territorial Credit Institute, ICT, will receive additional economic support in the amount of 15 billion pesos. From these funds 6 billion pesos will be transferred in two portions for investments established in the nation's budget.

4. The money will be received in an immediate 4-billion-peso draft to the ICT as a 60-day credit while the transfer is made officially for investments which will be charged to the government budget.

5. Under the direction of [Development Minister] Marin Bernal, a system has been created by which the ICT can enter the capital market to obtain public money, with mechanisms and results similar to those in savings and housing corporations which form the system of Constant Value Savings and Loan Certificates, UPAC.

6. An additional 7 billion pesos will be injected into the financial Fund for Urban Development, which is managed by the Central Mortgage Bank. About a year and a half ago the Fund had 3 billion pesos, then it went up to 12 billion, and at this moment it has 19 billion.

7. The two latter measures, which will represent an additional 11 billion pesos in circulation, will not endanger the stability of the currency and prices, because compensatory measures will be implemented to control monetary circulation and inflation. The plan to have the act improve its liquidity and to give the housing plans more incentive was the result of a joint formula agreed to (fiscal-monetary) at the end of debates, which almost caused a crisis in the Monetary Council.

8. The Financial Fund for Urban Development will use the new funds for infrastructure projects and for community services in several municipalities. This will meet three objectives: Take care of the projects that have caused unrest, fight unemployment, and give impulse to economic recovery.

9. The productive sectors will receive additional support by controlling imports and smuggling. Later a dynamic export policy will be promoted.

10. Goals for minor exports were set at $1.2 billion and $1.6 billion for 1984 and 1985. In 1983, exports other than coffee amounted to $938 million.

To promote this trade, Development Minister Marin Bernal will head a delegation that will go to Caracas in a month to negotiate an agreement to reaffirm the commercial trade terms. Yesterday he said that Colombia will offer Venezuela, one of its principal clients, the market for goods and services which Colombia is currently buying elsewhere. Therefore, purchases will not be limited exclusively -- as they are now -- to oil.

11. The export program will include a revision within 2 months at the most of the incentives and benefits received via credit from PROEXPO (Export Promotion Fund), INCOMEX (Colombian Foreign Trade Institute), and the Development Ministry.

Within the next few days a decree will be issued in which the Tax Reimbursement Certificate, CERT, will replace the Tax Credit Certificate, CAT. The Finance Ministry, the Development Ministry, the National Planning Council, PROEXPO, and INCOMEX will form a committee to increase or lower incentives according to the international market situation and the nation's condition. Flexibility in the use of incentives will then be used.

12. The private sector's foreign debt was analyzed and it was decided not to nationalize the debt -- that the state will not assume any debt, but will seek a way to prevent devaluation from making it harder to pay. It was learned that the private sector is "renegotiating" its debts -- especially overdue debts, which add up to $70 million.

Finance Minister Gutierrez Castro rejected a formula to help the endebted enterprises, under which the government would have granted loans enabling them to catch up on their debt payments and in which the foreign banks carrying the loans would give the government credits higher than the payments. "This is not the formula," he said.

13. The impact of the new 70-percent devaluation on the preferential bolivar, at 4.30 to the dollar, was analyzed. "It will not affect the present commercial situation and the balance of payments," the minister said. "We expect to have a clearer view of all the measures. We do not know the list of products Venezuela will buy at 7.50 bolivars to the dollar," Marin Bernal added.

CONPES approved a low-income housing program which consists of building 133,000 houses. The ICT will be in charge of 68,000, the Central Mortgage Bank of 17,000, the National Savings Fund of 8,000, the savings and housing corporations of 35,000, and the family compensation funds of 5,000. A total of 100,700 houses were built in 1983. These new houses will be financed with 70 billion pesos from the savings and housing corporations, 35 billion from the ICT, 16 billion from the Financial Fund for Urban Development, 12 billion from the Savings Fund, and 2 billion from the family compensation funds.

The plan, which will cost 135 billion pesos, has 110 billion available. Another 15 billion will be obtained from the new ICT measures and through other means.

Minister Gutierrez Castro said that international reserves have dropped to $2.6 billion as a result of approved foreign commercial operations, and he believes they will drop to $2 billion by December 1984.

CONPES also reviewed the international financing plan for public and development projects, which Minister Gutierrez Castro estimated at $2.2 billion for this year.

The budget situation will improve in 1984, when all the government regulations established during the second economic emergency are in effect. Gutierrez Castro and Marin Bernal said that the country is in a state of "prudent optimism." CONPES also received the budget bill for the 1985 fiscal year, which will be submitted to Congress in July.

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE, WOUND POLICE, BURN BUSES

PA011819 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Monteria -- Three policemen were seriously wounded and two buses were set on fire during violent incidents early today involving students from the National College.

According to preliminary official reports, the two buses were set on fire at one of the city's bus terminals; resulting losses total over 2.5 million pesos. Policemen Jairo Cordova Esquivel, Jose Sotelo Munoz, and Zambon Vasa Columet were seriously wounded when the police intervened to quell the disturbances. The three were taken to the local hospital. The police managed to disperse the demonstrators, and local authorities now report that the situation has returned to normal.

FARC ATTACKS POLICE STATION IN JAMBALO

PA012152 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Feb 84 p 1-D

[By Carlos Campo]

[Text] Popayan, 26 Feb -- The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, early this morning launched a violent attack on the police station in Jambalo. A police officer, a police sergeant, and 15 policemen resisted the attack for 5 hours. The number of FARC attackers could not be determined.

The attack started at 0130 and lasted until 0620. The police called Popayan on the radio to ask for help. Four officers, 4 sergeants and 17 policemen were then sent as reinforcements. There were no casualties in the action. The Cauca Police Command personnel did a good job of defending their station.

Jambalo, 80 km east of Popayan, could not be reached by telephone because the line was down.

BRIEFS

NEW MEXICAN AMBASSADOR -- Antonio Calzada Urquiza, the new Mexican ambassador to Colombia, arrived yesterday. He replaces Antonieta Santos Gavito. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Feb 84 p 10-B PA]

TROOPS SENT TO PROTECT OIL FIELDS IN EAST

PA011648 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1413 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Quito, 1 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- Military sources have reported that the government has ordered troops be deployed to eastern Ecuador to guard the area's oil fields and pipeline networks in response to a continuing standstill in activities that is affecting production.

Armed troops have been deployed to the oil fields and along some 503 km of pipeline which carries oil and other products in the province of Napo-Pastaza, where a regional work stoppage began on Monday, the sources stated yesterday. They said that the measure is designed to prevent acts of sabotage, which reportedly are being planned in that jungle area. The work stoppage, which was organized by the community of Lago Agrio, Ecuador's oil capital, located 200 km east of Quito, is intended to demand that the Government provide roads, environmental protection, drinking water, and electricity in the area, which according to area leaders has been totally neglected.

A communique released by the Ecuadoran State Petroleum Corporation, CEPE, which operates in conjunction with the U.S. firm Texaco in the area, states that the stoppage is affecting oil production.

CEPE Manager Patricio Ribadeneira told the media that the measure has produced a general highway blockade, obstructing the normal movement of gasoline and diesel fuel from the storage depots to the fields.

Government efforts to reach an agreement failed yesterday at noon when a popular assembly in Lago Agrio demanded that President Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea and parliamentary leader Gary Esparza be present and that 500 million sucres (approximately $8 million) be handed over to meet the community's most urgent needs.

Hurtado earlier appointed a government commission that traveled to the area immediately "in an attempt to find a viable solution in the shortest possible time," while high-level officials have said that attempts are being made to keep such actions from spreading to the rest of the Amazon region.

"It cannot be permitted that those of us who live in the provinces that produce the oil upon which the Ecuadoran economy depends live in subhuman conditions," a communique signed by the "Lago Agrio active forces" states.

Ecuador, a country that bases its economy on the extraction of oil, obtains an average of 240,000 barrels a day -- 50 percent of which is exported -- from wells in "the Amazon region," which is the name given to the tropical area that includes the provinces of Napo-Pastaza, Morona-Santiago, and Zamora-Chinchipe, located east of the Andes Mountain Range.

LIMA TO PROTEST ECUADOR'S TORTURING CITIZENS

PY012127 Paris AFP in Spanish 1854 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Lima, 1 Mar (AFP) -- Fernando Schwalb, the Peruvian prime minister and foreign minister, today announced that his government will submit a note to the Ecuadoran Government in connection with the charge, which has been confirmed, that two Peruvian citizens were tortured by Ecuadoran officials.

Schwalb said that torture charges have been very carefully investigated by the Foreign Ministry and that he could now confirm at least two cases, one of which involved professor Wilfredo Piscoya.

Piscoya, who leveled the torture charge almost a month ago, appeared on television 2 days ago and showed his arm, leg, chest, and back scars which he said had resulted from the torture dealt out by Ecuadoran rural offficials and guards.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON PLANNED 72-HOUR STRIKE

PY011415 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Today the National Agrarian Confederation reiterated its decision to start a national 72-hour stoppage tomorrow. Felipe Huaman, president of the Agrarian Confederation, stated that this forceful measure is supported by five national organizations demanding change in the government's agrarian policy which, they assert, is misguided.

However, not all agrarian organizations will join the stoppage. Today the Peasants Confederation of Peru, along with other organizations, voiced its disagreement with this measure.

Agriculture Minister Juan Hurtado Miller asserted that Lima will not run short of agricultural products, which can be bought every day since vegetables, fruit, and other products are supplied by peasants that do not belong to any of the organizations promoting the announced agrarian stoppage.

[Begin Miller recording] On Monday I called on the leaders of the Agrarian Confederation who are organizing this stoppage. I did this as a consequence of the call for common sense and the need to renew efforts during the stoppage that the president of the Republic made on Sunday. I discussed their 15-point demand at the meeting, which not the first one we have had. I think that all their requests are feasible and can be discussed. I have asked that instead of the scheduled 1-3 March stoppage, they come to my office and establish a consultative committee, as we had agreed to do in November-December 1983. What really concerns me is that this stoppage affects the peasants because they stop working their own land, thus only harming themselves. This is why this stoppage is absurd. [end recording].

POLICE END STUDENT 'INCIDENTS' WITH TEAR GAS

PY011350 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] San Marcos University students engaged in street incidents again today. The students intended to march from the university campus to downtown Lima to protest the recent increase in bus fares and the university law.

During the march the students hurled sticks and stones and set vehicle tires on fire. The police dispersed the rally with tear gas bombs and arrested some of the rebels.

Lima prefect (Arturo Arartes) today disclosed that there are subversive groups that incite the riots from within the San Fernando School. He pointed out that the intelligence service has established that the (Pucayasca) group is responsible for this. The prefect made the following statement while he and the prosecutor on duty were examining the riot damage at the school.

[Begin recording] [(Arartes)] This was far from being a student demonstration. The way they behaved today only confirms our belief that there is a terrorist cell within the school. The security forces have already been instructed to [words indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] Then you are saying that it has been proven that there is a terrorist cell within the school.

[(Arartes)] Well, through the report issued by the intelligence department we have learned that the dynamite that has been used is kept within the school. We are also aware that there are individuals within the school who are exclusively engaged in these activities, that is to say, to create disorder. These individuals belong to the Red Fatherland movement of the Peruvian Communist Party. We also know that the members of the (Pucayasca) terrorist group of the San Fernando School collaborate with them for these purposes. [end recording]

MILITARY REPORTEDLY STUDYING INDIRECT ELECTIONS

PY011325 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2050 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Montevideo, 29 Feb (EFE) -- The return today of Uruguayan de facto President General Gregorio Alvarez from Brazil coincided with reports that the military is working on a formula to hold indirect elections for choosing his successor.

"On 25 November elections will be held for all the elective posts with the exception of those for president and vice president," the weekly Colorado Party mouthpiece SEMANA URUGUAYA has stated.

Alvarez today concluded a 48-hour official visit to Brazil, where he met with President Joao Baptista Figueiredo.

SEMANA URUGUAYA added that the general assembly (made up of deputies and senators, some of them chosen by the military) which is to meet on 15 February 1985, will choose the president who is to take office on 1 March.

"This formula, it was learned from sources close to the government, would imply a significant shortening of the presidential term in office, in this case from 5 to 2 years," SEMANA URUGUAYA stated.

SEMANA URUGUAYA added that "it is doubtful that the Armed Forces will allow the participation of Wilson Ferreira Aldunate [an outlawed leader of the National (Blanco) Party] and the Communist Party at this stage."

It is taken for granted, though, that some left-wing groups which in 1971 voted under the PDC [Christian Democratic Party] banner, including members of the Broad Front [Frente Amplio], whose leader, General Liber Seregni, has been held in detention for many years, will now be allowed to vote.

SEMANA URUGUAYA also stated that for the 1986 elections all bans would be lifted, including that on Ferreira Aldunate.

Before SEMANA URUGUAYA published this report, Julio Maria Sanguinetti, leader of the Colorado Party, talked about this possibility and dubbed it a "Brazilization" of the process.

He was referring to indirect elections, and in his editorial published by the weekly CORREO DE LOS VIERNES he said that it was "another diabolic plan" issued with a divisive purpose.

Sanguinetti added: "We want to believe that the remarks made in a serene tone during the past few days by several generals assume the rejection of plans which are as cheating as that mentioned above."

He recalled that the political parties have categorically stated that the electoral solution is the only peaceful alternative for the country.

There has been no hint on who could benefit from an indirect election, but President Alvarez has been frequently accused by the politicians of "maneuvering" to "perpetuate his term in office."

Before leaving Brasilia, in answer to questions posed by reporters on the date of elections in Uruguay, Alvarez stated: "That is an internal problem that concerns the Uruguayans."

NEXT TO LAST STEPS TAKEN TO RESUME DIALOGUE

PY012125 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The next to the last steps to resume the dialogue between the Armed Forces and political parties are now being taken, exactly 1 year before a new president of the Republic should take over.

The Armed Forces commanders will probably meet this afternoon to evaluate the results of the talks that some of them have held separately on various occasions with Julio Maria Sanguinetti [Colorado Party leader], Juan Pivel Devoto [Blanco Party leader], and yesterday afternoon with Humberto Ciganda [president of the Civic Union].

This morning the COMASPO [Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission] with Brigadier General Hebert Pampillon presiding held a 2-hour meeting. General Pedro Gonnet, who as of today occupies the post of chief of the joint staff, also attended the meeting. The high-ranking officer assumed his post during a ceremony which was attended by the Armed Forces commanders and some ministers at the building on 8 October Avenue.

Meanwhile, top political party leaders will allegedly meet tomorrow.

The inter-party group will resume activities after a period of inactivity. Each party will voice its opinion on the subjects to be discussed in the future with the Armed Forces when they are summoned, presumably jointly, to hold talks.

One of the issues that has drawn the politicians' attention most during the past 48 hours is the statements made by the president of the Republic to the Brazilian media in Brasilia. The Uruguayan president reiterated that the new constitution should contain emergency measures that will grant the government branches enough power to act.

SEPULVEDA MEETS WITH ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER

FL012212 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2124 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda and Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo met here at noon today to discuss the international situation and bilateral relations. Sources close to the meeting indicated that the two diplomats insisted on the need to support the Action Committee for Central America (CADESCA), which held its first day of official meetings today to determine activities that would help the Central American region.

The first round of talks, which was held behind closed doors, began at 1200 (local time) and, according to the sources, the two officials considered the need to exclude interference by the superpowers to be extremely important to the Central American nations' right to choose their own destinies.

In accordance with the official agenda, the diplomats in a second session this afternoon will discuss Central American problems, the complex international situation, possible sources of violence that could affect world peace and stability, and Latin American economic integration. They will also study the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), which met in January in Ecuador. They will discuss the bases for future commercial and industrial exchanges and cooperation on all levels between the two nations.

Mexico and Argentina established relations in May of 1931 and in 1982 there was $186 million worth of trade between the two countries, of which $50 million was Mexican products and $136 million was Argentine products.

ENERGY MINISTER LABASTIDA ON OIL EXPORTS, OPEC

FL011952 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1857 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Secretary of Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry Francisco Labastida Ochoa has stated that Mexico has reduced petroleum exports by 300,000 to 400,000 barrels daily in order to protect the interests of the nation and of the oil producers. He stated that because of this measure, Mexico has earned $1.4 million less each day.

When taking leave of the president of the OPEC Conference, Libyan Gamel Nassan Magnur, who headed the 12th Workshop for Newsmen that was held here, Labastida Ochoa explained that the reduction was due to the fact that, if that amount of crude had been exported, it would have made possible the creation of strategic reserves that would have caused a drop in world demand.

He stated that Mexican installed oil production capacity is not being fully used at this time and that market behavior will be carefully observed in order to decide whether to maintain or increase production.

In referring to the visit of the OPEC representatives to Mexico, he stated that there had been a rapprochement between Mexican officials and officials of that international organization.

Labastida said that Nassan Magnur proposed to us the purchase of more petroleum industry goods and gave instructions to OPEC officials to establish contacts for this purpose. I believe this is beneficial for all Mexican industry and I have sent instructions to Under Secretary Mendoza Berrueto to coordinate this effort, which will strengthen economic and trade relations and may, in this sense, be beneficial for all petroleum producing countries.

CTM OFFICIALS RECOMMEND REORGANIZATION OF PRI

PA020127 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 27 Feb 84 pp 1, 2

[Report by Heliodoro Cardenas Garza and Jorge Octavio Ochoa]

[Excerpt] At the conclusion of the CTM's [Confederation of Mexican Workers] 100th Regular National Assembly, Fidel Velasquez, its secretary general, vehemently urged workers to continue their struggle in defense of the revolution.

It was said at the meeting that government measures prevented a national disaster, and that there is an urgent need to renovate the PRI in order to put a definite stop to the electoral advances of the reactionary forces. In view of the proximity of the elections to be held in seven Mexican states, the CTM decided to intensify its political actions in order to maintain its current positions and win additional posts in popular elections.

Specifically, Senator Abraham Martinez Rivero -- leader of the CTM's fourth section -- proposed among other things the urgent renovation of the PRI, by expelling from the party those who are guided by ambitions of power and personal interests. Martinez Rivero specified that this renovation cannot be postponed and that the party's leadership should be reduced to five members, in a "full democratization of the party and a reorganization of its Executive Committee." In addition, Porfirio Camarena Castro, the CTM's economic adviser, said that the measures adopted by the government prevented a disaster in the country by firmly confronting the economic problems, particularly during a period of economic recession, the effects of which are still being felt. Camarena Castro warned, however, that as long as the internal and external causes of the crisis still exist, immediate actions are necessary, such as a new strategy for collective contracts to permit better salaries and better working conditions.

BRIEFS

NEW REFUGEE COMMISSION COORDINATOR -- Oscar Gonzalez has been sworn in as coordinator of the Mexican Commission for Aid to Refugees [Comision Mexicana de Ayuda a Refugiados -- COMAR]. Gonzalez has reportedly been appointed to coordinate this commission out of the Mexican Government's desire to strengthen the COMAR -- made up of Interior Secretary Manuel Bartlett, Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda, and Labor and Social Welfare Secretary Arsenio Farell -- so that it can more effectively carry out its task of protecting and aiding the Guatemalan refugees who are currently settled along Mexico's southern border. Upon taking office, Gonzalez asserted that the right to asylum will continue to be honored, in accordance with Mexico's traditional respect for human rights and the law. [Summary] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 22 Feb 84 p 14 PA]

ILLUECA GETS MESSAGE FROM BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT

PA010453 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 28 Feb 84 p 6

[Text] The Brazilian Embassy hereby publishes the text of a message that the Brazilian president sent to President Jorge Illueca:

"Upon Your Excellency's assuming the presidency of the Republic of Panama, I would like to express, on behalf of the Brazilian people and myself, our most sincere congratulations and best wishes for personal happiness and success in your esteemed mission.

"I am sure that under Your Excellency's presidency, the fraternal relations between Brazil and Panama will continue to develop and be perfected, in the interest of our two peoples, within the climate of friendship that has always characterized these relations."

ARDITO BARLETTA TICKET OFFICIALLY NOMINATED

PA012143 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 29 Feb 84 pp 1, 31

[Report by Eva Montilla de Kinkead]

[Excerpts] Upon being officially nominated at noon today, presidential candidate Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta said: "I will strive to carry out the Electoral Tribunal's call for civic, honest, and real elections, as the Panamanian people demand."

Ardito Barletta also said that as a Panamanian citizen, he feels deeply honored to be chosen to head this ticket for the elections, and he stressed: "I promise to use all my energy, beliefs, and moral and physical strength to tackle this new task in my life."

The Ardito Barletta-Delvalle-Esquivel ticket was nominated by the Republican Party, the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party], the Liberal Party, the PALA [Labor Party], and the Panamenist Party. The Popular Broad Front is expected to nominate the same ticket this afternoon.

PALA Secretary General Azael Vargas told Electoral Tribunal magistrates and the people who gathered at the tribunal that PALA "remains firm in its decision to see the UNADE [National Democratic Union] ticket through to victory, because it will mean the country's salvation and the achievement of the hopes of all Panamanians."

Electoral Tribunal President Cesar Quintero said that his institution has fulfilled its organizational and administrative commitments, and he asked that all the people contribute to make the next elections a civic and democratic contest.

BRIEFS

WORKERS SOCIALIST PARTY CANDIDATES -- The Workers Socialist Party [PST] has included two laborers and a housewife on its ticket for the May 1984 presidential elections. They are: Ricardo Barria for president, Rosa Lopez for first vice president, and Rubelio Ortiz for second vice president. If it wins, the PST intends to support the Central American revolution, nationalize the Panama Canal, and abrogate the Panama Canal treaties. [Summary] [Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Feb 84 p 1A PA]

CONTADORA, C.A. MINISTERS SET 30 APRIL MEETING

PA011845 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and the Central American countries will meet in Panama on 30 April to receive the final legal documents, reports, and recommendations to be drafted by the technical group and the work commissions, which will meet previously in this capital on 2-7 April and 23-29 April. According to this report, which was released by the Panamanian Foreign Ministry at noon, the 3-day meeting of the Technical Group, which consists of the deputy foreign ministers of the five Central American countries and the four Contadora Group member countries, closed yesterday in accordance with its stated goals.

HONDURAS OUTLINES PROPOSED CONTADORA PROGRAM

PA012005 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The office of the Honduran foreign secretary, in supporting the Contadora Group's efforts and in pursuing peace for the Central American region, has proposed a program and schedule of activities for March and April. The proposal was presented at the 27-29 February meeting of the Contadora working committees in Panama City.

The program has three objectives: To promote democracy in the area, to reestablish military parity in the region, and to promote new forms of economic and social cooperation in Central America. In the political area, Honduras asks that the political committee study both national reconciliation and electoral processes and programs for promoting and defending human rights.

Honduras also proposes that, to complement the reports that the Central American governments provide the political affairs committee to keep it apprised of their specific domestic situations, a program of visits to the various Central American capitals be undertaken, so that the committee may obtain on-site information from representative groups in the five countries.

This proposal calls for meetings with government officials, political party leaders, peasants, workers, religious leaders, businessmen, university students, professionals, the media, human rights associations, and ethnic minorities. The information secured during these visits would be used by the political affairs committee to present the Central American and Contadora Group foreign ministers with an analysis and recommendations.

Honduras proposes that March be used to gather the information, and that April be used to prepare the report that the working committees would present on 30 April.

On issues involving security, Honduras calls for negotiations to establish control over and reduction of arms and military personnel, so as to reestablish military parity on the isthmus. Honduras further proposes that the security committee's activities be initiated with a meeting of the five Central American delegations. The first phase of this meeting would begin in March and would deal with the following issues:

1. A definition of the terms and criteria to be applied to an inventory of arms and military installations and a troop count in all five countries. This would include the establishment of mechanisms for the confidential and objective assessment of the findings.

2. Information involving agreements on foreign advisers and reports on the activities of foreign advisers and citizens in each country, including an exchange of migration data.

3. The preparation of reports on routes, areas, and means used for illegal arms traffic, in accordance with charges from the area's countries, so that international control mechanisms may be established.

4. Reports on terrorist destabilization efforts and internationalist activities in support of terrorism, as well as an exchange of information in this regard.

5. Assessment of the creation of a direct regional communication system to prevent incidents among the area's states and to enhance security.

Once the first phase has been concluded, Honduras would propose establishing an arms limits in each country, criteria for the reduction of foreign advisers, and international mechanisms for controlling and stopping illegal arms traffic and subversive and terrorist activities.

On economic and social issues, Honduras is calling for the revival and improvement of the Central American integration process so that it may adequately respond to the circumstances in the region. Thus, Honduras calls for an operational reactivation of this process.

The grave economic crisis affecting the Central American area must be resolved with the implementation of new projects that will reactivate the economy and generate new social opportunities. In this regard, Honduras has made the following proposals:

1. The joint execution of programs to promote the economic and social well-being of the area's people. This would involve regional programs for protecting health, financing new housing, and working both to find new energy sources and to create a truly regional electrical system.

2. Utilization of the Central American Bank of Economic Inegration to control and to channel foreign financing. Honduras will support the provision of capital for this bank.

3. Approval by the Central American countries as soon as possible of the document giving legal status to the Central American Monetary Council.

4. The reactivation and expansion of the Central American Clearing House, to attain the liquidity in payments that the area needs.

5. Active participation by the Central American governments in establishing a regional nutritional system.

COSTA RICA

MONGE DISCUSSES NICARAGUAN ATTACKS, CONTADORA

PA011748 San Jose Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Press conference held by President Luis Alberto Monge at the Presidential House in San Jose on 29 February -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] [Name indistinct] from Mexico City's EXCELSIOR. Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez yesterday publicly announced that counterrevolutionary armed groups had attacked Nicaraguan territory from Costa Rica 3 days before the Sandinist Army attacked Costa Rican soil last week. Don't you think that this was a violation of Costa Rica's neutrality, and what measures will be taken to guarantee respect for this neutrality?

[Monge] I must admit that there have been attacks on Nicaragua from Costa Rica by dissident forces. [Words indistinct] constitute an open violation of and outrage against our country's neutrality proclamation. Furthermore, if any group should organize military actions from our country against Nicaragua, this group would be showing disrespect for and would be in violation of our country's sovereignty. However, I also know of an attack from Nicaragua against Costa Rican territory, which we have strongly protested at the OAS through our representative in Washington and before the Contadora Group foreign ministers, who are currently meeting in Panama City. In addition, I recommended this afternoon that the incident be reported to the UN secretary general by our permanent UN delegation, because this is the second time that our territory has been infamously and openly attacked by members of the Nicaraguan Army.

[Reporter] [Name indistinct] from "The Colombian Newscast." The sixth meeting of the Contadora Group ended today in Panama City. Among the conclusions reached by the four representatives is that in [words indistinct] peace will be achieved in the region. What is your opinion of this statement made by the Contadora Group last night?

[Monge] Well, we would all be pleased if this should happen, because the Central American people are anxious for peace. As you know, the Costa Rican Government and I have supported the Contadora Group's efforts. However, we have also noted that these efforts have been somewhat slow, which is understandable, given the complexity of the issues and the accumulation of problems that have persisted for many years. If in truth we are so near to peace in Central America, we would all have cause to rejoice, particularly we Costa Ricans, who have been seriously worried over the last few years that the violence and war that are afflicting Central America may affect peaceful Costa Rica as well.

[Reporter] [Name indistinct] from ACAN-EFE. Mr President, a few hours ago Foreign Minister D'Escoto sent a note to his colleague George Bush [as heard] blaming the United States for the latest attacks on Nicaragua and, to be more specific, on its ships in the Atlantic, and charging that the craft that attacked the fishing boats at El Bluff were launched from Costa Rica. Have you any information on this?

[Monge] As you will remember [words indistinct], but it is a known and proven fact that those planes did not depart from Costa Rica. Now, perhaps in response to our complaints about attacks on the northern border, it has been claimed that the attacks by a small military vessel in the Atlantic originated in Costa Rica.

This is exactly the same propaganda ploy that was used a few months ago, when they said that the planes took off from Costa Rica. I strongly reject the claim that this vessel left from Costa Rica.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] from "Telenews." During the last few months, and virtually throughout your administration, complaints have been filed with the United Nations, the OAS, and the Contadora Group on constant violations of Costa Rica's national sovereignty by the Sandinist forces. Actions by anti-Sandinist forces have also been reported. More specifically, some officials have charged in the past few days that there is an anti-Sandinist field hospital at Ciudad Quezada. However, this administration's authorities seem to know nothing about this. My question is this: Will we have to wait for Costa Rican blood to be shed, or for Costa Ricans to die, to enforce respect for our national sovereignty, both by the Sandinists and the anti-Sandinists?

[Monge] We have ordered investigations into all charges of military activities in our territory by Nicaragua's warring groups. In most cases, the reports about camps, about concentrations, have proven not to be true. Most charges of attacks on Nicaragua's side of the border from Costa Rica and charges that the attackers have returned to Costa Rica have not been proven. We are investigating the charge that the guerrillas that are opposed to the Nicaraguan regime have a field hospital here. A similar charge that was raised a few weeks ago could not be verified. Either it was not true, or we got there too late. We are investigating this last complaint at this very moment.

Regarding the difficulties that we have had at the border, at the San Juan River, the only thing that we have been able to do has been to assemble all complaints about attacks on our country and violations of our rights in the border area. Thus far we have not found the opportunity to do more than that.

[Castro] Good evening, Mr President. Marcelo Castro of Radio Monumental. We know that Costa Rican forces would not be able to confront an armed attack and win. (?In addition), the declaration of neutrality issued by the Costa Rican Government indicates that (?it is unarmed). In view of the developments at the northern border, don't you think that it is necessary to authorize a peace force (?to watch) the northern border?

[Monge] One of the possibilities we must always bear in mind is resorting to the mechanisms of the inter-American legal system, the mechanisms established by international law, and not to [word indistinct] the idea that if this situation continues we will have to return to the idea that we need a peace mission or a team of observers at the northern border. If we get to that, the country will know about the proposal we will eventually have to make to get minimum guarantees or protection for a country that has no army and that represents no threat or menace to anyone. It is absolutely false that we are cooperating in or helping carry out military actions against the Nicaraguan Government.

[Rojas] Good evening, Mr President. Juan Ramon Rojas from the newspaper EL DEBATE. According to a report from the Public Security Ministry and the National Security Agency, pardon, from the Intelligence and Security Directorate [Direccion de Inteligencia y Seguridad], Deputy Government Minister Chacon was found to be in possession of a quantity of weapons belonging to Pastora. If the charge is proven, if this is true, what action will the government take against this official?

[Monge] We must refute this, and I don't know if the press has reported this in the past. On several occasions we have confiscated weapons that allegedly belonged to Pastora's dissident group.

Much to our chagrin, because we know that this entails an idealism that is worthy of respect, we have had to arrest people linked to Pastora and to send several of Pastora's followers to the Costa Rican courts.

[Cruz] Mr President, Juan Carlos Cruz of AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA. What is your opinion of the charges by former rural police officers (?at) (Haz) and (Igarote) that high-ranking officers of that corps are linked to the people of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE?

[Monge] I am not familiar with the details of the charges, but I am sure that the Government Ministry and the Security Council are investigating them. If any official or authority is truly involved in ARDE's military actions in Costa Rica, he will have to be dismissed immediately.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Foreign Minister Gutierrez said yesterday that Costa Rica cannot defend the northern border. Does this mean that the Costa Rican Government may call for a military force to defend the border between the two countries and more specifically to invoke the TIAR [Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty]

[Monge] Well, we don't have an army to stop a military attack. This is true. However, we have already decided that in case of an aggression of this type, such as an invasion of our territory, we would -- besides mobilizing the Costa Rican people, which we have done on previous occasions -- resort to the mechanisms of the inter-American legal system. And if we even have to resort to the TIAR in case of an invasion we will. We have already done this and we feel that we are entitled to do so because Costa Rica has never been an aggressor, has never adopted provocative attitudes, and has never attacked a neighboring country. However, we hope that there will be other options and mechanisms available prior to resorting to the TIAR, which would be a last resort.

[Sloth] Jan Fife Sloth of CBS Radio. Good evening, Mr President. If there is another attack from Nicaragua, will the Costa Rican guard return fire?

[Monge] [Passage indistinct] This is a question that I cannot answer in public.

[Reporter] My question is very much like the one posed by the companero from CBS. A few days ago -- exactly 2 days ago, in fact -- the Security Council voted that if we are attacked the Rural Police or Civil Police will return fire. Don't you think that this means adding wood to the current fire with Nicaragua?

[Monge] Well, I think we will have to do what the country's decorum calls for, and this will be done. However, I repeat, I don't think that it would be prudent for me to announce publicly what would be done.

[Mora] Mr President, I am Enrique Mora from TASS. ARDE is operating in Costa Rica as a political office, as a political organization. At the same time, it operates at the border as an armed organization. Don't you think that this duality in ARDE's activities, practically in the same territory, violates the statute of neutrality and, in addition, endangers our peace with Nicaragua?

[Monge] Any military activity from our territory violates our neutrality proclamation and the principle of the right of asylum that we apply to political refugees. We have cearly stated this over all the difficult years that Costa Rica has endured as a haven for political refugees in Central America and Latin America. Also, Costa Rica does not want to be implicated in the military actions and activities which are taking place in Central America, not just in Nicaragua but in other countries as well.

I repeat and summarize: Any action of a military nature from Costa Rica violates our neutrality proclamation and disrespectfully tramples on the right or principle of asylum that is upheld by our country.

CHARGES AGAINST NICARAGUA FILED AT OAS

PA011805 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] At the OAS Permanent Council, Costa Rica today formally accused Nicaragua of an unjustified surprise attack. The Sandinist forces attacked a Rural Police patrol on 23 February. The charge unleashed a bitter exchange of mutual accusations between Nicaraguan Ambassador Edgar Parrales and the Salvadoran, Honduran, and Guatemalan representatives, during which U.S. Ambassador J. William Middendorf II accused the Sandinist government of subservience to its Soviet and Cuban masters.

Costa Rica has often stressed that it will resort to all inter-American devices to repel any attack, Representative Luis Guardia warned the council during a special session held at his request, despite Parrales' objections. Costa Rica today said that acts like this create doubt about the sincerity of Nicaragua's alleged efforts to promote detente, revealing Nicaragua's actually scant interest in regional peace. Costa Rica added that this was a serious attack by one of the region's most powerful armies against one of the continent's weakest republics.

Parrales answered by saying that the actions at Naranjo and Conventillos were intended to repel counterrevolutionary attacks, adding that his government had already replied to a Costa Rican protest, condemning [word indistinct] activities by anti-Sandinist guerrillas on the border. Parrales asked: Why would we want to attack Costa Rica? Had we wished to attack Costa Rica, the country would have had no time to call for a special council meeting, because Costa Rica would have been very busy indeed.

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT ON NICARAGUA BORDER INCIDENTS

PA011817 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Legislative Assembly President Jorge Luis Villanueva has said that Costa Rica should reject simple protests to Nicaragua in favor of firmer measures. This is the moment to resort to international organizations and even to request intervention by a peace force or observers; if such measures do not prove effective, Costa Rica should then break diplomatic relations with Nicaragua, Jorge Luis Villanueva said.

In addition, the Legislative Assembly president said that Sandinist Army members on the border act independently and not on orders from their commanders. Finally, Deputy Villanueva admitted that Costa Rica partially shares responsibility for the problem.

Villanueva suggested that representatives of international organizations should visit the sites of incidents and carry out investigations on the spot. Our sovereignty and tranquillity must not be endangered by actions like those staged from time to time by Nicaraguan soldiers, Villanueva stressed. We don't believe that those who occupy positions in the Sandinist Army are ordered to provoke incidents on the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border, he said. I am fairly sure that the nine commanders have nothing to do with this situation, but they should still take the necessary measures to prevent their subordinates from involving the two countries in a conflict in which both would be losers, Villanueva added.

We must take into consideration the fact that the Nicaraguan Government is currently worried about the electoral process, and thus is not particularly interested in a confrontation with neighboring countries, he pointed out. Neither did Deputy Villanueva reject the idea that some Costa Ricans, even within the government, might share responsibility for these incidents.

EL SALVADOR

RIGHT-WING DEATH SQUAD THREATENS NEWSMEN

PA020117 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1422 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- A right-wing death squad has sent a communique to the Salvadoran news media in which it threatens newsmen who "collaborate with the enemies of the Republic." The Salvadoran Anticommunist Command, CAS, said in its communique, which was published today in a local newspaper, that newsmen who "collaborate with the enemies of the Republic by sending distorted reports will be executed."

This warning was made by the clandestine organization to newsmen who work for radio, television, and newspapers. It said further that "to repeat false reports from abroad that only serve to confuse the people" will be considered collaboration with "the enemies of the Republic."

"To play up to the terrorist bands and to the gang of newsmen paid by international communism" will also be considered collaboration, the communique stated.

UNGO DENIES TRUCE DURING UPCOMING ELECTIONS

PA011405 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1212 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Vienna, 1 Mar (EFE) -- Guillermo Ungo, president of the Salvadoran FDR, today denied by telephone to EFE that he had decided to halt guerrilla activity during the elections in his country on 25 March. The Salvadoran revolutionary leader called the EFE office in Vienna from Zurich (Switzerland) and said, "As long as a negotiated solution is not achieved, the war will continue; therefore, military activities will continue on election day." He added, however, that neither the FDR nor the FMLN will "turn the election sites into military targets." Hence, they will "not attack the voting sites or prevent those who want to vote from doing so." Ungo, who is a vice president of the Socialist International, made this comment in reply to newspaper reports that interpreted a recent remark by him as meaning that there would be no guerrilla activity during the upcoming elections in his country.

CORRECTION TO ZAMORA DISCUSSES U.S. POLICY

The following corrections to the item headlined "Zamora Discusses U.S. Policy With Venceremos," published in the 29 February Latin American DAILY REPORT on pages P 8-10 are supplied from a rebroadcast by the clandestine Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0230 GMT on 29 February:

Page 8, third paragraph, lines two reads: ...in El Salvador. According to an auditor's report made public in the United States a few days ago, millions are being... (filling indistinct words, rewording)

Page 9, third paragraph, line two reads: ...in El Salvador because Reagan will still be facing this fact: The Reagan administration will never be able to solve the problems of El Salvador and Central America with dollars. These are political and social problems. The structural changes of democracy cannot be bought with dollars. Social changes cannot be made with dollars either. In the famous welfare plan for San Vicente, which will cost over $30 million -- a plan just for San Vicente Department -- the North Americans have an example of this. The plan has not worked. The U.S. Embassy... (filling indistinct words, rewording)

Fourth paragraph, line two reads: ...the Salvadoran oligarchy and the dictatorship is in progress. Reactionary groups that have settled in Miami, in the United States, are behind this campaign. What is the real situation in the United States regarding Reagan's foreign policy? Which U.S. sectors are opposed to the Reagan policy in El Salvador?

[Zamora] The opposition to Reagan's insane policy toward El Salvador has increased in the United States. We can identify five large sectors within the U.S. Government, especially in Congress, that is, congressmen and senators. There is a group of Democrats and Republicans opposed to the Reagan policy who are criticizing this policy and are trying to block it by imposing conditions on the economic and military aid that Reagan is giving El Salvador, by denouncing the corruption that the aid dollars to El Salvador are generating, and by demanding that Reagan change his policy in favor of a negotiated political solution. It is important to point out that democratic candidates for the presidential elections taking place in the United States this year have made this clear. For example, Mondale -- who will most likely be the Democratic Party's nominee -- has made a strong statement noting that Reagan's policy toward El Salvador is leading toward intervention. Thus he is opposing President Reagan's direct intervention.

Another important sector opposed to Reagan's policies is the churches, both the Catholic Church and the Protestant churches. The U.S. Episcopal Conference has made explicit and strong statements against the military aid that the U.S. Government is sending to Magana and El Salvador. Likewise, the National Council of Churches, which includes the Protestant churches, has repeatedly made statements opposing this aid. Representatives of the Catholic Church -- like the archbishop of Washington, for example -- have gone to Congress to say that Reagan's El Salvador policy is not working and that it would be better to look for a resolution through dialogue and... (filling indistinct words, rewording, picking up fifth paragraph, line seven)

Page 10, first paragraph, line three reads: ...Latin American Citizens. This organization has on several occasions said that it favors a political solution and is against a military option, which is what the Reagan administration is seeking in Central America. To summarize, we can say that in the United States the U.S. people do not want... (filling indistinct words, rewording)

GUATEMALA

UNC REGISTERS AS PARTY; ELECTIONS SET 1 JULY

PA011835 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The Committee for the Formation of the Union of the National Center [UCN] at 1100 today presented at the registration office the documents necessary to be registered as a provisional political party. Upon presenting the required documents, UNC Secretary General Ramiro de Leon Carpio expressed his satisfaction.

It was announced that with the presentation of these documents at the registration office, the legal requirements had been satisfactorily met and the new provisional party will be able to nominate and register its candidates to the National Constituent Assembly that will be elected on 1 July.

CAN PRESENTS PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION PAPERS

PA020152 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The Nationalist Authentic Central [CAN] this morning presented its provisional registration documents at the citizens' registry. CAN Secretary General Mario Aguilar Arroyo asserted that during the party's working tours they have detected irregularities in the citizens' registry procedures.

ARMY REPORTS EIGHT REBEL CASUALTIES IN CLASHES

PA012151 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] [In progress] ...yesterday in Nebaj, El Quiche. The action began in the village of (Patzuman), where the patrol located a rebel group and inflicted three casualties on them. Meanwhile, the other rebels escaped. A search operation was carried out with positive results, because the fugitives were located 5 hours later. A clash ensued and five rebels were killed. According to official reports, the troops confiscated a considerable quantity of weapons.

HONDURAS

DEFENSE SECRETARY DISCUSSES AREA DEFENSE PLANS

PA011059 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Interview with Colonel Amilcar Castillo Suazo, national defense and public security secretary, by Jose Domingo Flores; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Flores] How does Honduras' security stand now that the "Big Pine II" maneuvers have ended?

[Castillo] Insofar as internal security is concerned, we have managed to preserve peace; one can feel the tranquillity in the country. However, we must not overlook the fact that our enemies -- that is, the Marxists -- are always working and can take action at any time. As for the international situation, we have had no border incidents with Nicaragua lately, and everything is quiet on the border with El Salvador.

[Flores] The Salvadoran FMLN guerrillas have said several times that they can enter Honduras. Do you think the Honduran Army can stop them?

[Castillo] We cannot rule out cross-border raids by the Salvadoran guerrillas on one of the small, isolated Honduran towns, in which there are virtually no military forces that could defend them.

[Flores] In other words, the possibility that they may sow chaos in this country cannot be ruled out?

[Castillo] I would not say sow chaos, but they can indeed stage raids on some places that are not protected by our Armed Forces.

[Flores] However, hasn't Honduras entered into an alliance with the Salvadoran Army to eliminate the guerrillas in that country?

[Castillo] No. We have not entered into an alliance with the Salvadoran Army. The only thing that we do is to protect our borders and our national sovereignty.

[Flores] Has the northern triangle -- Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador -- been in operation, Colonel?

[Castillo] Well, all that we have done to date is to hold talks and assess some situations, but there is nothing final.

[Flores] What happened? Why has this matter been shelved?

[Castillo] Actually, each country's situation is unique, and this has prevented us from reaching final conclusions.

[Flores] Does this mean, then, that CONDECA [Central American Defense Council] has not been reactivated?

[Castillo] No, CONDECA has not been reactivated. We have held a number of meetings on reactivating it, but nothing final has been done to date.

[Flores] Don't you think that it is necessary to reactivate it, in view of the situation in Central America, Colonel?

[Castillo] Well, we tried to reactivate it to confront the communist onslaught and to creat stronger, more solid front to resist actions intended to disrupt order and to destabilize the democratic governments in Central America.

COMMUNIST PARTY SENDS MESSAGE TO NICARAGUANS

PA020014 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 24 Feb 84 p 8

["Open Letter from the Honduran Communist Party to Our Brothers, the Nicaraguan People," issued in Honduras in February; passages in uppercase as published]

[Excerpts] Brothers:

It has been the exemplary tradition of the Honduran popular movement to mobilize the masses to reject any ATTEMPT BY THE DOMINANT CLASSES TO INVOLVE US IN ATTACKS AGAINST A FRATERNAL PEOPLE.

Honduras, which in the past prided itself on generously protecting the refugees from our continent when they fled ignominious tyrannies and sought refuge in our land. Today has turned into a BASE FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTERREVOLUTION. There are swarms of agents from the worst satrapies, Israeli advisers, Yankee "Green Berets," Argentine counselors and "experts in dirty warfare," that is, CIA mercenaries, in our sacred land. Even worse, our country IS MILITARILY OCCUPIED BY FOUR ARMIES: the U.S. Army, the Salvadoran Army, which is currently training its counterinsurgency troops at the base in Castillas [Puerto Castillas]; the former Somozist Guardsmen, who operate at their leisure and will from camps in border departments, and the Honduran Army itself, which has given up its patriotic duties to become a simple appendage of the others.

This occurs with the complicity of Suazo Cordova -- the contemporary Adolfo Diaz [former Nicaraguan president who requested U.S. intervention] -- and with a complacent and servile attitude on the part of Alvarez Martinez, the Honduran General Moncada [Nicaraguan president at time of U.S. occupation].

Suazo Cordova, who is betraying the true feelings and hopes of the liberal people who brought him to the presidency by his alliance with Alvarez Martinez' fascist military clique, has relinquished his remaining scruples in order to offer the U.S. Government, like a common procurer, the "favors" of an entire nation. He is seeking to hire out that nation to the point of converting it into a simple "protectorate" in exchange for hypothetical, multimillion-dollar economic "aid" that never seems to arrive...and that appears only as a veritable shower of war materiel, because what Washington really wants is NOT TO SOLVE THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS of a small country on the verge of bankruptcy... but to turn it into the spearhead of its aggressive policy against Nicaragua or El Salvador.

Just as the joint "Big Pine I and II" military maneuvers were a smokescreen to cover the deployment of troops and military equipment in order to provide logistic support to the Somozist "contras," the presence in Honduras of 1,700 soldiers, who were involved in those maneuvers, and the announcement of "Operation Grenadier I" for the next few months are demonstrably an excuse to JUSTIFY THE PERMANENT OCCUPATION OF OUR COUNTRY.

Honduras is running the serious risk of becoming a gigantic Yankee military camp and of losing its national identity and its sovereign character.

Other revolutionaries, democrats and Honduran patriots who uphold our people's right to revolt against a government that has lost all its moral authority to continue ruling in the name of a false "democracy" that it has itself betrayed, have joined us communists who glorify the heroic legacy of Lempira, Moraza, Calix Herrera and Juan Pablo Wainright, and the nationalist ideology of Froylan Turcios. We demand on Sandino's 50TH ANNIVERSARY the right to be free, expelling from our territory all foreign invaders who blemish the Republic's honor and who are trying to turn us into cannon fodder in a senseless, unfair, and unnecessary war, in which, according to a high-ranking Catholic priest, "they would supply the weapons...and we the corpses."

Nicaraguan brothers:

At a time when one of America's great liberators, CESAR AUGUSTO SANDINO, is being remembered, the Honduran revolutionaries and patriots of all races and creeds, churchmen and laymen, civilians and the military, join in this UNIVERSAL HOMAGE because we see in his courage and firm determination to be free...or die and in his rejection of all submission to imperialist orders the path that the Central American peoples will follow to achieve our second independence. However, the best tribute that we can pay him is reflected in:

-- our own struggle to prevent Honduras from becoming a Yankee military base.

-- expulsion of all counterrevolutionaries and mercenaries that are currently harassing Nicaragua from our territory;

-- an effort to stop those who are trying to prevent the triumph of the Salvadoran revolution or to attack Guatemalan patriots from our territory;

-- the rescue of our democratic freedoms and a halt to the brutal repression to which we are being subjected by the death squads;

-- implementation of the idea that the Honduran Government and Army should coexist peacefully with their neighbors, respecting their right to free self-determination, and practicing a NONALIGNED foreign policy.

Nicaraguan brothers: Our people are your brothers and will never lend themselves to an aggressive act that will also harm our current rights and our future interests as a free country.

On this solemn occasion, we adopt your slogan: "After 50 years...Sandino lives."

Central Committee of the Communist Party of Honduras

NICARAGUA

COSTA RICA EXAGGERATES BORDER INCIDENT AT OAS

PA011809 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Washington -- Costa Rica's exaggeration of a border incident with our country is an effort to counter the Contadora Group's efforts to secure peace, resorting instead to the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, to resolve the Central American conflict. Father Edgar Parrales, our ambassador to the OAS, made this comment in the course of the heated debate between the representatives of these two Central American nations today at the OAS Permanent Council.

Luis Guardia, Costa Rica's alternate representative at the OAS, accused Nicaragua of having staged a grave attack on members of the neighboring country's Rural Guard who were traveling in the border area of Conventillos on 23 February.

Father Parrales explained that on that occasion, a group of counterrevolutionaries stationed in Costa Rica attacked a border post located more than 1 km inside Nicaragua. This elicited the appropriate response from the Sandinist People's Army troops in defense of our country's national sovereignty and territorial integrity. After this incident, which amounted to no more than a skirmish of the kind traditionally fostered by the CIA from both Honduras and Costa Rica, our Foreign Ministry presented the appropriate explanations to the Costa Rican Government. Father Parrales added that the Costa Rican authorities' exaggeration of the incident is intended to promote a military intervention by the OAS through the TIAR.

Costa Rica's delegate, meanwhile, threatened that his government is ready to resort to all devices in the inter-American system to protect its territorial integrity, its domestic peace, and its -- according to him -- enviable democracy. Costa Rica's stand, which, according to Father Parrales, is intended to defeat the Contadora Group's peace efforts in Central America, was endorsed by the United States and its regional allies, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

Father Parrales insisted that his country is committed to the Contadora Group's peace efforts, despite all U.S. attempts to use force.

TIRADO RECEIVES VIETNAM'S NGUYEN DUC THUAN

PA011445 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 27 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] Upon being received Saturday by Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez, Nguyen Duc Thuan, member of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party and president of the Trade Union Confederation, transmitted the following message to the FSLN National Directorate and to the Nicaraguan people: "We reassert that Vietnam and Nicaragua are fraternal brothers in the same trench against Yankee imperialism, and Vietnam's solidarity and cooperation with the Sandinist cause."

At their meeting, the revolutionary leaders held an interesting exchange of experiences on the difficult political, social, economic, and military conditions that both the Vietnamese and Nicaraguan revolutions have had to face, identified as they are by a single cause: the struggle against U.S. imperialism. The Sandinist leader recalled Ho Chi Minh, hero and leader of the Vietnamese revolution, who "adjusted revolutionary theory to the special conditions in Vietnam" in the same way that Carlos Fonseca outlined a suitable strategy which worked.

YOUTH OFFICIAL CARDENAL MOVES TO CDS APPOINTMENT

PA011840 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Father Fernando Cardenal has been removed from his position as deputy coordinator of the 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement [JS-19J] to assume the position of deputy secretary general of the Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS]. The announcement was made by Carlos Carrion, coordinator of the JS-19J during the closing ceremony of the sixth work session of that organization's national council, which was held in the city of Juigalpa. During the 3 days of busy sessions, the JS-19J discussed the new general goals to be developed during 1984, and it was announced that the position that Father Cardenal is leaving will be filled by Companero Pedro Hurtado.

STATE COUNCIL APPROVES 2-4 MONTH CAMPAIGN PERIOD

PA011728 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] An electoral campaign period of from 2 to 4 months was approved by the State Council yesterday. Debates focused on the various positions held by the political parties represented on the Council. A campaign period of up to 6 months had been proposed. However, the proposal of a shorter period prevailed in an effort to avoid neglecting national defense activities.

The final calendar for political campaigning by the parties that will participate in the 4 November elections will be determined by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, which should be created in the 3d week of this month.

An intermediate proposal that the political campaign period be from 2 to 4 months was approved yesterday during the seventh special State Council session following heated debate. The original proposal had been that the electoral campaign be from 1 to 3 months. Representatives of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, the Democratic Conservative Party [PCD], the Social Christian Party [PSC], the Communist Party, and the Popular Social Christian [PPSC] opposed the 3-month maximum, arguing that it was too short a time for such activities.

Jose Espinoza, delegate from the CUS [Confederation for Trade Union Unity], said that it was necessary to propose dates for the electoral campaign and then proposed that it last for 6 months. Dr Orlando Quinones of the Independent Liberal Party [PLI] objected to a 6-month electoral period, saying that it could cause uncertainty among our people.

Debates about the use of the Sistema Sandinista Television Network and of state and private radio stations for campaigning were suspended at 2015 last night to be resumed at 1000 today if the representatives of the political parties present proposals.

Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, State Council president, proposed that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal be charged with ensuring that two 30-minute programs be made available weekly on Channels 6 and 2. Nunez, along with the representatives of AMLAE [Luisa Amanda Espinoza Association of Nicaraguan Women] and of the PPSC, criticized the delegates of the PCD, PLI, PSC, and the Constitutionalist Liberal Party for being absent from the debates on the use of radio and television.

The councilmen said that the politicians who have complained of a lack of access to the media were not present to discuss and to contribute to the electoral law.

At the initiative of the Council president, it was proposed that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal be responsible for determining the time that will be alloted to the political parties for their campaigns.

PLI OFFICIALS DISCUSS SEPARATION FROM FPR

PA011400 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Asked if the PLI [Independent Liberal Party] has received aid from the (Frederick Neuman) Foundation, Dr (Constantino Pereira) said the Nicaraguan organization SERENA [Society for the Study of National Reality] is composed of PLI members and receives aid from the foundation. Pereira stressed that the PLI does not receive direct aid from the organization. He added that the party does not receive large sums, but only nonmonetary aid such as vehicles.

Regarding the party's political line, PLI vice president Dr Eduardo Coronado Torres said the PLI is not against the FSLN, despite the PLI's recent departure from the Revolutionary Patriotic Front [FPR]. Coronado Torres stated: Our separation is due above all to our principle that we must have our own political room to fulfill the party's ideals. This does not mean we oppose the revolutionary process.

At a press conference to clarify news reports, PLI leaders reasserted their anti-imperialism and condemned imperialist aggression. Here is Coronado Torres:

[Begin recording] At no time have we said that we are against the FSLN, nor do we plan to be. We embrace the same principles and tasks as all leftist parties, particularly the FSLN.

When we separated from the FPR, we did not do it suddenly. As early as 11 January 1984, some parties declared the advisability of running for elections alone. Since that time, the FPR has been virtually inoperative. This does not mean that we will forsake the fighting trenches of the revolutionary parties. We have simply moved to another place in the same trench to fight all threats to proper development of the revolutionary process.

We believe that it is better if more fronts are present in the same trench. However, if we move to another front in the same trench of struggle, we will do it with the same ideological instruments and political tactics. We will help this process advance with more order and continuity and with fewer contradictions.

Regarding right-wing tendencies, we wish to state that we will never be part of them, because our principles and statutes indentify us as democratic revolutionaries. You will always find the PLI in this trench, fighting and following its revolutionary guidelines -- never in a counterrevolutionary camp. [end recording]

EDEN PASTORA ON U.S. TRIP, ARDE OPERATIONS

PA012225 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Report on radiotelephone interview granted by Eden Pastora, identified by his nom de guerre Commander Cero, leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, "from the mountains of Nicaragua," to Juan Bautista Vasquez; date not given -- passages withing quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] The first question for Commander Cero dealt with his trip to the United States, where he went to get help for his movement. What was the result of his efforts? His answer:

[Pastora] "Our efforts (?in parts of) the United States and in other countries have had positive results because we obtained support in connection with our problems in southern Nicaragua from friends, public personalities, and democratic forces. We went to get boots, uniforms, and -- why not say it -- weapons and ammunition for the struggle on behalf of our democracy and our freedom."

Asked about the unity of the movements currently struggling against the regime of the nine commanders, Commander Pastora answered:

[Pastora] "Well, we represent unity. ARDE is an alliance of six political-military organizations that are fighting for our people's freedom: UDN-FARN [Nicaraguan Democratic Union-Revolutionary Armed Forces of Nicaragua], MDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Movement], MISURASATA-SICC [Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity-Southern Indigenous Creole Communities], the Social Christians, the Nicarguan workers, and the Sandino Revolutionary Front. We are open to dialogue in the search for positive solutions to liberate our people in accordance with some political program that guarantees the democratic recovery of our revolution, a political program guaranteeing democracy [words indistinct] Nicaragua. We are ready to hold a dialogue within the framework of a program of national concurrence from positions of [word indistinct]. This dialogue would be held with the democratic forces that are still outside our unity, or alliance."

Recently, Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, one of the leaders of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, said both in Miami and in Guatemala that the FDN and ARDE might unite in order to launch a joint struggle against the regime of the nine commanders.

Asked about the possibility of such a union between the FDN and ARDE taking place, Commander Cero answered:

[Pastora] "Only if it does not pose the threat of a return to the past. We are fighting today's totalitarianism in Managua, and we will be very careful not to return to the totalitarianism of the past. If the FDN would dissociate itself from the (?mummies) of the Somozist past, who are implicated in the Somozist (?regime's) genocide and 45 years of crime, we would talk to the FDN."

Yesterday afternoon it was announced in the Costa Rican capital that the Judicial Investigation Agency had captured several ARDE members, seized weapons, and shut down a radio station that was serving this organization that fights against the Nicaraguan regime. Asked about this, Pastora indicated:

[Pastora] "We have heard the news that some weapons and radios were seized yesterday in a house in that neighboring country. We can assure you, however, that this development has nothing to do with ARDE. We have our weapons and our radios in Nicaragua. We only have our political front in Costa Rica."

At the request of our station's press department, Pastora explained ARDE's situation in southern Nicaragua.

[Pastora] "We currently control over 130 km of border area, some 120-150 km deep. We have liberated a 5,000-square-km area and are fighting in an area of over 20,000 square km. We have 5,500 guerrillas inside Nicaragua in these combat areas, over 4,000 disarmed but (?organized) men, and tens of thousands of men waiting for us to arrive with the military resources and techniques in order to advance. This, in general, is what I can tell you. In addition, our peasants maintain a high combat morale due to our continued struggle against Managua's totalitarianism."

Commander Cero was asked about the deployment of an ARDE patrol in Nicaragua's southern sector, where this movement has begun operating. What happened when one of these patrols entered Honduras and was captured by the Honduran authorities?

[Pastora] "What happened is what always happened under the Somozists: We were pursued, imprisoned, expelled, and even tortured. That is a Somozist habit, and that is also the habit of the godfathers of the Somozist guardsmen in Tegucigalpa. They want to return to Nicaragua, but neither the people nor the honorable democratic Nicaraguans will permit this. This is why we urge the FDN -- the democratic branch, the young FDN combatants, the young officers among the former Somozist guardsmen who want to vindicate themselves and to fight from honorable positions in order to return to democracy -- to expel those mummies, those colonels, those lieutenant colonels who until the last moment were committed to Somozist genocide; to expel the (?Bermudezes) from their general staff so that we may sit down for a fraternal talk about the problems weighing on our people."

Concerning the ARDE commandos' action in mining the port of El Bluff, where, according to the reports available, two ships were destroyed, one of them a warship, Pastora answered:

[Pastora] "Five days ago we mined Bluefield Bay's exit to the sea at El Bluff. We announced it beforehand, and yesterday a Soviet- or French-made Coast Guard boat, we don't know which, was blown up, as well as an armed fishing boat equipped with a four-barreled 14.7-mm cannon. We are expanding the war and taking it to Prinzapolka, on the Atlantic coast, where the war is resting on the shoulders of our MISURASATA-SICC brothers, led by Companero Brooklyn Rivera. (Tapapone), Rio Grande, La Cruz de Riogrande -- the entire Atlantic coast is a guerrilla area, an ARDE area."

Concerning the much-touted U.S. invasion of Nicaragua, which the nine commanders continuously denounce, Pastora said:

[Pastora] "Look, the invasion is the [word indistinct] with which the Gringos have been scaring the Managua government so that it will fall into the trap of stopping production, which is what it has done. It has stopped production and has fallen into politicking positions, mobilizing the masses, the entire Nicaraguan people, in connection with the much-touted invasion, which so far has not taken place.

"After almost 5 years of non-Sandinist Marxist-Leninist revolution, the Managua government has suspended production, and without production there is no revolution. They have the power, but they have failed to wage the revolution. An invasion would be a huge blunder by the Americans. It would justify the presence of the Cubans in Nicaragua, who are invading and intervening in our people's affairs camouflaged as internationalists. An overt invasion would be highly negative for our people's democratic struggle."

BRIEFS

VISITING MEXICAN SECRETARY -- Guillermo Soberon Acevedo, Mexican secretary of health and public assistance, arrived in Nicaragua on 29 February for a 2-day visit to exchange views and to take part in the first national congress of the popular health drive that will begin in Managua tomorrow. Lea Guido de Lopez, the Nicaraguan minister of health, and Augusto Gomez Villanueva, Mexico's ambassador to Nicaragua, greeted the visitor upon his arrival. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Mar 84 PA]

MILITARY REASSIGNMENTS -- Sandinist People's Militia Combat Brigade 2-42 was turned over on 5 February to Guerrilla and Brigade Commander Hugo Torres. Brigade 204, which comprises six battalions from the Rivas area, includes workers, teachers, small and medium-sized producers, and Sandinist Defense Committee members. Meanwhile, on 4 February, Battalion 19-31 returned to Granada after defending the national sovereignty for more than 7 months in the northern mountains and along Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. On 5 February, several contingents made up of young people from both Masaya and Granada were seen off at the local stadiums. The youths were off to participate in the Patriotic Military Service. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 6 Feb 84 p 6 PA]

RAUL CASTRO SENDS CONGRATULATORY NOTE TO GRANMA

FL011428 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, minister of the FAR, has sent a message of congratulations from the FAR to the workers and Director Jorge Enrique Mendoza of GRANMA newspaper. The congratulatory note was prompted by GRANMA having received the Lazaro Pena Order, first degree [Orden Lazaro Pena, prime grado].

The message from the party's second secretary and vice president of the Councils of Ministers and State stated that the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC], on behalf of all Cuban workers, had bestowed the order to recognize the irreplaceable role GRANMA plays as the official organ of the party's Central Committee in guiding the Cuban people. Raul's message to GRANMA added: Let us make this justified decision our own.

RAMIRO VALDES ENDS 4-DAY VISIT TO BULGARIA

FL011246 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1203 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes Menendez, the Cuban interior minister, today concluded a friendly, official 4-day visit to Bulgaria.

Bulgarian Internal Affairs Minister Dimitur Stoyanov and other officials saw the Cuban leader off at the airport. Ramiro Valdes Mendendez and his retinue also received a friendly farewell from a group of Pioneers and the Ernesto Che Guevara Youth Brigade which visited our country recently.

During his stay in Bulgaria, the Cuban interior minister met with Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the Council of State.

Decorated in Czechoslovakia

FL020152 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Ramiro Valdes Menendez, member of the Party Politburo and minister of interior, today was awarded the Friendship Order at the recommendation of Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak, secretary general of that country's Communist Party. The decoration was awarded in recognition of the friendly ties between the security agencies of the two countries.

Czechoslovak Interior Minister Vratislav Vajnar noted the close relations that exist between the Cuban and Czechoslovak Interior Minister Vratislav Vajnar noted the close relations that exist between the Cuban and Czechoslovak Governments and parties as he conferred the high honor on the Cuban guest. Ramiro Valdes arrived in Prague today from Bulgaria.

CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT

FL011910 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iakovou has arrived in our country for a 5-day official visit. Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca received the distinguished visitor at Jose Marti International Airport.

Moments before departing for Havana, the Cypriot minister told PRENSA LATINA that the main purpose of his visit to Cuba was to increase the relations and cooperation between our two friendly countries. He noted: The fact that this is my first visit to another nation since I became the Cypriot foreign minister shows the feelings of friendship between our peoples.

ICAP COMMEMORATES GUYANA'S INDEPENDENCE

FL012003 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The fourteenth anniversary of the independence of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana has been commemorated with a ceremony held in Havana at the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples, ICAP.

Robert McKenzie, first secretary of the Guyanese Embassy, spoke on behalf of the ambassador, His Excellency Cecil Stanley Pilgrim, and thanked ICAP and the Cuban people for the friendship and solidarity expressed to the small Caribbean nation.

ICAP Vice President Alfonso Guillen Zelaya recalled the tradition of struggle of Guyana which became the first English-speaking Caribbean nation to obtain full independence and determine its own destiny 14 years ago. Guillen Zelaya also expressed Cuba's support and decision to maintain fruitful relations of cooperation with the Guyanese people.

MEETING 2 MARCH TO PROMOTE CHILEAN RESISTANCE

PA012124 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] A meeting of the American Executive Secretariat of Solidarity with the Chilean People [Secretariado Ejecutivo Americano de Solidaridad con el Pueblo de Chile] will be held in Havana starting tomorrow, Friday, with the participation of representatives of national committees from 14 countries.

(Alfonso Guerrero), executive secretary of the organization, told PRENSA LATINA that the main objective of the meeting is to further international solidarity with the Chilean people at a time when the internal political situation shows that Augusto Pinochet's regime is exhausted.

The agenda includes such matters as physical and political support for internal and external resistance, and the promotion of international campaigns for the defense of individual rights, the return of exiles, and the release of political prisoners.

HOLGUIN MILITARY UNIT RECEIVES RECOGNITION

FL011955 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Brigade General Ramon Espinosa Martin, member of the party's Central Committee and chief of the Eastern Army, has delivered the banner making Military Unit 16-40 the country's most distinguished unit. During the event, presided over by Miguel Cano Blanco, alternate member of the Politburo and the party's first secretary in Holguin Province, awards for distinguished service were given to a group of officers, noncommissioned officers, and sergeants, [as heard] in addition to soldiers. It was announced at the ceremony that last year the Eastern Army carried out the best work in the country. The combatants of Military Unit 16-40 received a greeting from the chief of the Eastern Army on behalf of the FAR minister.

STRIKING WORKERS THREATENED IN EL SALVADOR

FL011315 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1237 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Salvadoran union leaders have charged that workers who are on strike in El Salvador to make labor demands are the target of threats from military officers and electoral demagoguery from certain politicians. The union leaders' charge is in connection with remarks made by Colonel Adolfo Blandon, chief of the Army General Staff, who said that the more than 15,000 striking workers want to destabilize the nation to (?interrupt) the electoral process.

The growing strike movement is made up of 4,000 employees of the National Administration of Waterworks and Sewers, 6,000 employees of the Salvadoran Social Security Institute, and 3,000 employees of the Institute of Supply Regulation. National teachers have also joined the strike movement. They are demanding a 50-percent salary increase and the payment of back wages.

Rightists Threaten Reprisals

PA012110 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Extreme right-wing organizations, death squads, and Salvadoran Army sectors have threatened reprisals against more than 15,000 public employees and workers who have been on strike for almost 2 weeks to demand salary raises.

Included among the organizations that have aired the threats is the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, whose leader Robert D'Aubuisson is one of the presidential candidates in the elections to be held in El Salvador on 25 March with U.S. Government support.

Colonel Adolfo Blandon, chief of the Army General Staff, has also threatened the workers. He has characterized the strikers as leftist agitators who are trying to destabilize the country in order to hinder the electoral process.

Margarita Gasteazoro, vice president of the Women's Socialist International, has charged in Caracas that the genocide that the Salvadoran Army commits against the civilian population is the main problem faced by women in that Central American country. In a statement before the Latin American Congress of Social Democratic Women [Congreso Latinoamericano de Mujeres Social Democratas], the leader of the National Revolutionary Movement of El Salvador charged that women, elderly people, and children are the main victims in the massacres that the Army perpetrates against the civilian populations.

Meanwhile, Radio Venceremos, the voice of the FMLN, has asserted that during the first 9 days of the campaign "Long Live the Heroes and Martyrs of 28 February 1977" the Salvadoran guerrilla forces inflicted almost 80 casualties on the Army and seized many weapons.

Government Issues Decree

FL011925 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Extreme rightist organizations, death squads, and the Salvadoran Army have threatened to take reprisals against labor groups that have been on strike for the past 13 days to demand better wages. This is a coercive effort to get more than 15,000 public employees and workers back to work. These employees and workers are demanding salary adjustments and back pay.

Meanwhile, the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, headed by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson and the so-called Secret Anticommunist Army, which is made up of thugs, threatened union leaders and Salvadoran workers with death.

Simultaneously with the death threats, the Salvadoran regime issued a decree through the legislative branch yesterday. This decree established a 10-percent wage increase for the public sector and issued an alleged law for the stabilization of the prices of staples. With this move, Alvaro Magana's administration is trying to quieten the growing popular discontent now that the 25 March elections are growing near.

SALVADORAN REBELS REPORT STATUS OF WAR GAINS

PA012125 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The Salvadoran FMLN has announced that during the first 2 months of this year its forces inflicted 870 casualties on the Army; captured 237 prisoners; destroyed 25 military vehicles, including two U.S.-made helicopters; and seized 471 arms of various types.

The rebel forces have recently increased their attacks following the attack on a train transporting fuel and troops from the capital to La Libertad City. As a result of this attack, 20 members of the Treasury Police were killed, and an undetermined number of persons were wounded. The guerrillas destroyed 3 fuel tanks and seized 20 weapons.

In San Salvador, the Social Security Institute employees are in their 8th day of a strike to demand salary increases. Meanwhile, the regime has militarized the installations that had been occupied by National Administration of Waterworks and Sewers employees, who have been on strike since yesterday. Other labor unions have warned that they will go on strike if their demands are not met.

Ruben Zamora, member of the FMLN-FDR political-diplomatic commission, has said that the U.S. Government policy for Central America, instead of helping to solve the problems of the region, makes them more acute and widespread. Many U.S. sectors are increasingly opposed to these interventionist ambitions.

REBELS ATTACK POLICE TROOPS IN GUATEMALA CITY

FL020222 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] According to spokesman for Mejia Victores' government, rebel units have attacked police troops in Guatemala City. Members of the Poor Peoples' Guerrilla Army inflicted 43 casualties on government troops during the month of February. A contingent of soldiers was annihilated during the same period.

Guatemala's Human Rights Commission has launched a worldwide campaign for life, for those missing involuntarily and through force, for the legally missing, and for those condemned by the tribunals of the so-called special units.

Today the Guatemalan political group manifested its concern over official confirmation that soldiers will have significant participation in next July's electoral farce.

'GRENADIER I' MANEUVERS IN HONDURAS RESCHEDULED

PA012158 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The 'Grenadier I' military maneuvers organized by the United States on Honduran territory, which will involve other countries from the area, have been advanced to May. Some 4,000 soldiers from the United States, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador will participate in the maneuvers.

The U.S. daily newspaper MIAMI HERALD has reported that the "Big Pine III" maneuvers, initially scheduled for this coming fall, may take place simultaneously with the "Grenadier I" maneuvers on the Honduran border adjoining El Salvador's Morazan Department.

NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR ON TIES WITH COSTA RICA

PA010434 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Leonor Arguello, Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica, has reaffirmed her government's desire to foster better relations with Costa Rica. The Nicaraguan diplomat said her country deplores conflicts with its neighbors, and would like to have the best relations possible. She added that the conflicts will not be solved as long as there are counterrevolutionary groups stationed in Costa Rica.

The whole world knows where the attacks against Nicaragua come from, Leonor Arguello said, referring to a counterrevolutionary action perpetrated last Wednesday by the so-called Third Path Movement. She stressed the need for Costa Rica to keep watch on its border to prevent counterrevolutionary activites and to avoid conflicts between neighboring nations.

BOMBINGS, ATTACKS REPORTED IN CHILEAN CITIES

PA012153 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] No less than 11 bombs exploded last night in Santiago and in the southern city of Concepcion. Some of the bombs damaged electrical installations and produced blackouts.

The bombs went off hours after an attempt was made to dynamite the archbishopric's office in Santiago. Yesterday fascist slogans painted by a so-called Commando Group for the Defense of the Fatherland [Grupo Comando de Defensa de la Patria], which is responsible for several attacks against the Chilean Catholic Church, appeared on the walls of this church building.

Fascist groups have staged several attacks on the church during the last few days, at a time when church leaders have been adopting positions against the military government. A few days ago the Chilean church described as discourteous the government's refusal to grant safe-conducts to four people who have taken refuge at the nuncio's residence in Santiago.

ECUADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS EUROPE TOUR

PA020238 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Luis Valencia has returned to Quito after a 2-week tour of Europe. Valencia visited Italy, France, the FRG, Great Britain, Belgium, and Spain, to whose governments he represented a copy of the Quito Declaration and the plan of action to remedy the Latin American economic crisis.

The Ecuadoran foreign minister said that he informed his counterparts about the need for dialogue between Latin America and the industralized countries in order to share responsibilities in the international economic crisis.

PANAMA'S FOREIGN MINISTER CITED ON AREA PROBLEMS

PA020135 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] A substantial amount of the economic aid that the so-called Kissinger Commission has recommended for Central America will be devoted to furthering the arms race, and not to relieving social problems and tensions in the area, Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega has told the Mexican news agency NOTIMEX during an interview.

Ortega criticized the business organizations that attack the Contadora Group because of its refusal to support the isolation of Nicaragua. He noted that those who act this way are against harmony and peace. There are people who want peace for Central America but not for Nicaragua, Ortega said. However, we believe that the Sandinist government has every right to exist, he said.

The Panamanian foreign minister told NOTIMEX that the OAS has not been equal to the challenge of the latest developments in the area, and stressed that the new OAS secretary general will have to bear very much in mind that times change, and that it is necessary to watch closely over American interests, such interests being understood as those of the entire continent and not only those of its nothern area.

OECS COMMISSION TO EASE TRADE PROBLEMS

FL012108 Bridgetown CANA in English 1926 GMT 1 Mar 84

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, March 1 (CANA) -- The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) is setting up a commission to discuss with Trinidad and Tobago officials how to ease trade problems between Port-of-Spain and the seven nation economic grouping, OECS chairman, Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, said last night.

Miss Charles, speaking at the end of a one-day summit of OECS heads of government, said they had decided to establish a legal unit within the OECS Secretariat, streamline the operations of the Eastern Caribbean Tourism Association (ECTA), and invite Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands to become associate members of the organization.

She said yesterday's summit meeting had also agreed on the appointment of a chief justice for the associated states' Supreme Court, and the establishment of a sports programme to cater to the OECS countries.

The summit reviewed OECS participation in last October's U.S.-led invasion of Grenada.

Miss Charles said security forces of the OECS countries would remain in Grenada until Grenadian police were equipped to look after the island's security.

OECS countries have complained that important restrictions by Trinidad and Tobago, the most lucrative market in the English-speaking Caribbean, was adversely affecting their already strained economies, as evidenced by lay-offs and the closure of some factories.

"Each member state has been asked to prepare a report on their individual trading problems with Trinidad, and this will be collated by the Secretariat and presented to the commission for study and further negotiations," Miss Charles said. The commission, she added, would pursue discussions at the highest political level in Port-of-Spain with a view to having the problems eased.

Trinidad and Tobago imposed restrictions in view of dwindling foreign reserves due to rising outlows and falling revenues from the key oil sector.

With regards to ECTA, which looks after promoting OECS tourism, Miss Charles said the decision to streamline the body was taken in view of financial constraints facing member countries. She said the heads of government agreed ECTA was doing a good job promoting the islands as tourism havens, especially over the past two years when there was an increase in tourists.

"We decided that the association should concentrate on the European and English markets, which is where the tourists appear to be coming from," said Miss Charles. "But the islands are so economically strapped that we have asked ECTA to make the best use of available funds."

Miss Charles said the OECS heads would direct education and sports ministers, scheduled to meet in Dominica next week, to seek funds from the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to set up the sports programme which will be administered by the Secretariat. "The idea is to prepare the OECS for possible participation in the next Olympics, the OECS chairman said.

The establishment of the legal unit, Miss Charles said, would help prevent the OECS looking outside the organisation for assistance in dealing with its legal problems.

GRENADA

SCOON TO ANNOUNCE DATE FOR VOTERS' ENUMERATION

FL011832 Bridgetown CANA in English 1729 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpt] St George's, Grenada, March 1 (CANA) -- Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon said last night he would shortly sign the necessary documents and announce a date for the start of voters' enumeration for Grenada's first general election in eight years, planned for later this year.

The enumeration exercise was originally scheduled to have started today, but Supervisor of Elections Roy Chasteau said the plan had to be put back because the necessary mechanisms were not in place.

The governor-general, in a brief address over state-owned Radio Grenada, said Grenadians would be fully informed how the registration of voters will take place before enumeration gets underway. He did not mention how this would be done, but the supervisor of elections has said the electoral office hopes to inform the population about the enumeration process through a number of means.

Scoon said choosing a government was a responsibility Grenadians could not shirk. He added that no effort was being spared to ensure that the electoral process is foolproof.

U.S. TO COMPLETE POINT SALINES AIRPORT

FL011725 Bridgetown CANA in English 1605 GMT 1 Mar 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 1 (CANA) -- The United States has given Grenada the assurance that it will help the island complete its half-built multi-million-dollar international airport at Point Salines, in the south, according to Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon.

The U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Tuesday told the new interim government of the decision. The airport had been a sore point in relations between Washington and the left-wing People's Revolutionary Government (PRG).

Work on the airport, which Washington said the PRG would allow Cuba to use for its military exploits, came to a halt last October, following a U.S.-led invasion of the island that was aimed at toppling the military junta taking over from the PRG.

"I am now pleased to say that Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, in correspondence which was received only last evening has given the assurance that the Government of the United States of America is committed to the "timely completion of the airport...," Sir Paul said in a radio address to the nation last night.

The governor-general in his ten-minute broadcast said that Reagan fully supported the new Grenada Government in its effort to have the controversial airport operational for commercial use.

The U.S. President, he stated, had given orders to the charge d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Grenada to stay in close consultation with Nicholas Brathwaite, the head of the interim government, so that work could proceed as quickly as possible on the project.

Sir Paul said it was his hope that the airport, which would provide Grenada's first night-landing facilities, would be put into use by the start of the next tourist season later in the year.

He did not say how much of the projected 24 million U.S. dollars needed to complete the airport would be provided by Washington or whether any other Western donor country was willing to assist in the completion of the airport.

JAMAICA

REYNOLDS ANNOUNCES CESSATION OF MINE OPERATIONS

Government Takeover Urged

FL011858 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The Workers Party of Jamaica [WPJ] is urging the government to take over the assets of Reynolds Jamaica Mines, which earlier this week announced its intentions to cease operations here.

In a release, the WPJ said this was necessary in order to prevent the total collapse of the economy of many towns and communities, which have thousands of workers, shopkeepers, [words indistinct], and children, who depend directly or indirectly on the operations of the company.

The government communique said such a takeover could mean either nationalizing the company outright or converting Reynolds' 49-percent share into long-term equity.

In the case of nationalization, the state said, Reynolds could be paid either in cash from the profits of the company or in bauxite.

It said also that under no circumstances must the government allow any of the equipment to leave Jamaica. And the member of parliament from South Beach and [word indistinct] has called on Prime Minister Edward Seaga to be the [word indistinct] investor for Reynolds Jamaica Mines.

Seaga on Reynolds Decision

FL011956 Bridgetown CANA in English 1757 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 1 (CANA) -- Jamaica is facing a gap of over 100 million J dollars (one Jca dollar: 30 cents U.S.) on the 1984-85 fiscal budget, which is now being prepared, and a shortfall of 30 million U.S. dollars in foreign exchange allocations, according to Prime Minister Edward Seaga. Seaga said this was because of the sudden decision by Reynolds Metal to close its bauxite mining operations here by mid-year.

Reynolds' action will also complicate negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a stand-by credit facility, and delay the conclusion of a package that had been set for this weekend, Seaga remarked last night.

Seaga also disclosed that he has told Washington about the problems and indicated that it was appropriate for the United States to purchase more Jamaican bauxite for America's strategic mineral stockpile.

Reynolds announced Tuesday night that it had found a bauxite source cheaper than Jamaica for its Texas alumina plant, and that it would phase out operations of Reynolds Jamaica Mines by mid-year.

Following negotiations started in the 1970's, Jamaica in 1980 acquired 51 per cent of the local subsidiary, but Reynolds remained manager and it stayed tied to its integrated system.

Prime Minister Seaga, in a speech at the opening of an insurance complex and in a later press statement, complained of the manner in which Reynolds took its decision, saying that the government was informed only within the past few days and that "there was no prior discussion by the company on the matter."

"The imminent closure of Reynolds Jamaica Mines would have an adverse impact of more than 100 million dollars on the fiscal budget for 1984-85 and have an adverse effect on the foreign exchange budget of approximately 30 million U.S. dollars," Seaga said.

Jamaica, seeking 180 million U.S. dollars from the IMF, is presently discussing the budget with the fund, which already is demanding big reductions in the fiscal deficit, running at 15 percent of gross domestic product (GDP).

The IMF demands will mean significant spending cuts by the government and probably new tax measures, and economists here say that the loss the prime minister has spoken of will greatly aggravate the situation.

The foreign exchange crisis that has forced the government into agreements with the IMF would also sharpen under the impact of the Reynolds pull-out, and the government will have to rein in harder on imports, they say.

However, Prime Minister Seaga is hoping that Jamaica's close friendship with the Reagan administration will help prove a cushion.

Seaga said that he had told the U.S. Government of the Reynolds action and had "indicated to the government that it would be most appropriate for a further agreement to be made by the U.S. to purchase Jamaican bauxite for stockpiling to compensate for this sudden withdrawal by Reynolds..."

This, he said, would give Jamaica a year within which to breathe, during which the government would "explore all avenues to seek to restore the level of production now cut by the Reynolds closure, and deal with the unemployment created."

Reynolds was expected to this year produce about 600,000 tonnes of bauxite, doubling last year's output. The company has a capacity of over two million tonnes but the recent recession on the aluminium market had forced it to reduce output, and it currently maintains a staff of only 200 out of a normal complement of 600.

Washington over the past two years, when the local industry slumped because of the recession, has brought Jamaican ore for its mineral stockpile, and observers here say that President Reagan would probably do so again in keeping with his intention of projecting Jamaica as the economic model for Central American and Caribbean countries.

Meantime, Mining and Energy Minister Hugh Hart has been having discussions with the unions representing bauxite workers on the Reynolds issue.

The Marxist Workers Party of Jamaica (WPJ) has said that the government has no choice but to take over the mines, either nationalising the company outright, or converting Reynolds' 49-per cent share into a long-term equity. In the case of nationalisation, Reynolds could be paid either in cash from profits or in bauxite.

Under no circumstances must the government allow any of the equipment at the mines to leave Jamaica, it said.

Going with the take-over, the government should use the bauxite to fill a contract with the Soviet Union for seven million tonnes of ore and to expand the possibilities which this offered for more markets, the group suggested.

It said that the Reynolds pull-out exposed the "softness of the Manley government in entering an agreement that gave government controlling shares but only two directors on the board.

"Thus, despite the government having majority interests, it is the multinational Reynolds which is allowed to call the shots," the party said.

TWO ARRESTED ON SUSPICION OF COUP, INVASION PLAN

NC020814 Paris AFP in English 0807 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] The Hague, March 2 (AFP) -- Officials in Suriname have arrested two men on suspicion of having helped in planning a coup d'etat and invasion of the country, according to reports reaching here today.

Lieutenant-Colonel Desi Bouterse, the head of Suriname's military junta, said the two men, who were not identified, had made contact with a "fairly large" group in neighboring French Guiana.

That group, he said, has been preparing an invasion of Suriname since January. He also linked an increase in suspicious fires in Suriname to the alleged coup plans.

Lt-Col Bouterse made his comments in a statement yesterday to the People's Militia, Suriname's Army, in the capital of Paramaribo. He was quoted by the SURINAMESE NEWS AGENCY, SNA, in a report monitored here.

The agency quoted Lt-Col Bouterse as saying that the group in French Guiana was made up of "counterrevolutionaries" and mercenaries led by former Surinamese military officers and four mercenaries.

The SNA report came as the Dutch news agency, ANP, today reported an increase in military activity in Suriname since the beginning of the week. Armored vehicles were patrolling the streets of Paramaribo at night, and the Suriname River was also being patrolled, it said.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

NORTH-SOUTH MEETING APPROVES 'SANTIAGO PROPOSAL'

PY011800 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0425 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, 29 Feb (EFE) -- The North-South roundtable meeting, which was held at the site of the Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA], ended today with the approval of the "Santiago Proposal," which synthesizes the agreements reached. After 3 days of discussions by approximately 50 international financial experts, the chairman of the meeting, Mahdub Ul Hag, stressed the urgent need to achieve an overall and unanimous solution to the problem of foreign debt and to grant more resources to the IMF to help the economic adjustment processes. The "Santiago Proposal" states that IMF action must be aimed at promoting more expansive policies which may improve the levels of employment and production.

Referring to the IMF, it was also said, without reaching a consensus, that four points must be stressed: The first is that the adjustment is a world process. The second is the time needed to propose these adjustments and the time required to put them into effect. The third point refers to the conditions, and the last point refers to the fundamental work of the IMF, concluding that the decision to provide resources to the IMF is a political measure to be adopted by the countries that provide money to this organization.

ARGENTINA

DEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSES SERVICES RELATIONS

PY012350 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1626 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Mar (NA) -- The Air Force today issued an official declaration that says Brigadier Alberto Simari "did not offend" any person or institution during the incident with the chief of the Joint Staff which precipitated the crisis resulting in Simari's retirement. In turn, Defense Minister Raul Borras has stated that "the episode is closed." In Rosario, Minister Borras noted that "he will not, under any circumstances, allow some military sectors to continue adhering to a past methodology when the Armed Forces were divided into three parts."

He also emphasized that his ministry is addressing the problem of "reformulating" relations among the three branches of the Armed Forces. The defense minister made these comments in Rosario, where he went to pay a routine visit to the II Army Corps.

PARAGUAY

PRESIDENT RECEIVES BRAZILIAN AERONAUTICS OFFICIAL

PY011635 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 1 Mar 84 p 4

[Excerpts] General Alfredo Stroessner, president of the Republic and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, yesterday morning met at Government House with Lieutenant General George Belham da Motta, director of the Research and Development Department of the Brazilian Aeronautics Ministry, who is visiting our country at the head of a high-ranking delegation.